

THE TIMES
Tomorrow

Sailing...
Spectrum looks at the revival of travel writing with a boat trip through Borneo

...with the tide
The curious current that could spell disaster for the weather

Lady...
When is a lady not a lady? Philip Howard on a matter of manners

...love
Rev. Bellamy reports on the world doubles tennis championship at the Albert Hall

500 escape
in jumbos
near miss

The US Federal Aviation Administration is investigating a near collision between two Pan-American jumbo jets carrying a total of more than 500 people. The aircraft, one from London, one from New York, came within 600ft of each other over the Bahamas on January 1.

Inquest into felt
tip pen death

An inquest was opened yesterday in Southampton into the death of a boy, aged six, who died after swallowing the tip of a scented felt tip pen which he had been given as a Christmas present from his parents.

Customs seize
£62.9m of drugs

The value of drugs seized by the customs rose by more than £12m last year to a record £62.9m. Heroin worth £25m and cocaine valued at £12m were discovered.

BBC meters

The BBC may have to consider charging for its broadcasts through home meters, a report by the Broadcasting Research Unit says.

Tea crisis

The sudden jump in tea prices at the London auctions arose from Indian fears of a shortage to meet domestic demand. This caused India to ban certain tea exports.

Journalist dies

Richard Hughes, *The Times* Hongkong Correspondent, the best known and most colourful journalist in the Far East, died in hospital in Hongkong, aged 77.

Airbus orders

Northeastern, the US airline, has ordered two of the A300 European airbuses which are partly built in Britain. It will take delivery of the 314-seat jet in June.

£30m for bridge

The Government is expected to approve spending of more than £30m to strengthen the Severn Bridge amid concern over its safety.

ECGD crisis

The Export Credits Guarantee Department, stung by record claims against it, has revealed that it expects to exhaust its cash reserves within the next few months.

Lillee era ends

Dennis Lillee has announced his retirement from Test cricket and will not play for Australia again. Lillee, who is playing in the fifth Test match between Australia and Pakistan, will play out the season with Western Australia.

Leader page 11

Letters: On Eagle Star, from Mr P. Thurnham, MP, and others; local expenditure, from Mr D. Blunkett; Sellafeld, from Mr Patrick Jenkin, MP.

Leading articles: Social welfare policy; Peace movements in eastern Europe; Angling.

Features, pages 8, 10

A Falklands compromise: restoring Nait's crumbling unity; a tribute to Leonard Arthur; Profile: Clive Thornton, chairman-designate of Mirror Group Newspapers.

Obituaries, page 12

Mr Richard Hughes; Captain A.D.D. Rogers

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Thatcher bars way
to hasty US
Beirut withdrawal

● Mrs Thatcher, in a warning signal to President Reagan, said last night the multinational force must stay in Beirut to prevent a bloodbath.

● Mr Reagan, upstaged by the Rev Jesse Jackson's mission to Damascus, said he was willing to meet Syria's President Assad.

● Israel is planning a big redeployment and reduction of forces in southern Lebanon, to make them less vulnerable to guerrilla attack.

● The Israeli bombing in the Bekaa Valley killed nearly 100 people, including women and children, according to hospital sources (Report, page 6)

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, last night barred the way to any rushed American withdrawal from Beirut. She said in an ITN interview that there could be no possibility of a pull-out by the multinational force because the military vacuum would be turned into a bloodbath.

The only opening for a withdrawal, she said, would be for a replacement force to be provided by the United Nations. In spite of the fact that she revealed that the British ambassador in New York had been actively engaged in diplomatic efforts to build agreement for such a replacement, she has already reported to the Commons that the Soviet Union refuses its support.

The burden of Mrs Thatcher's words will be to place a critical diplomatic obstacle in the way of President Reagan, countering any temptation he might feel to bow to domestic political pressure for a Beirut retreat.

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and we can't just come out of the Beirut area and leave a vacuum there. You remember how terrible it was before the multinational force went in, and if there was terrible slaughter again, we should all feel very, very guilty indeed that we had not made proper alternative arrangements."

Mrs Thatcher's blunt warning is bound to be regarded as a brake on any precipitate American action, if only because there are no great hopes of a UN initiative in New York.

She also said: "The British thought of in Beirut. We have only 110 there. We couldn't go down to any lower number because they wouldn't have the number both to do the job and to defend themselves."

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"They have protected Beirut. They go out and about on tours in scout cars. They are very widely welcomed by the Beirut people, and they actually protect the building where the ceasefire talks constantly take place."

● A way out: Western political leaders are increasingly looking to the UN to provide a means of withdrawing (Rodney Cowton writes)

The UN has its Unifil peace force in southern Lebanon, and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday they had been discussing for some time with the UN whether a larger role could not be filled by a UN-sponsored force.

It was announced yesterday that Sir Geoffrey is to visit the Middle East for five days from next Sunday. He will also meet Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Russian Foreign Minister, at the Stockholm conference on January 16.

Sir Geoffrey is likely to seize both opportunities to assess what potential there is for encouraging the UN to undertake a role in Beirut. It would not be the first time that attempts had been made to extend its role, but so far, it has

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Mr Andreas Papandreu, Greek Prime Minister, welcomed by the Labour Party leader, to Athens yesterday with his son Stephen. Mr Papandreu said it was up to Britain to withdraw its contingent from Lebanon to help the Americans to pull out without losing credibility.

Big security test
as London hosts
economic summit

By Stewart Tandler and Frances Williams

The Prime Minister is to host the tenth economic summit of leading Western nations at Lancaster House in St James's, London, from June 7 to 9.

It will be attended by the leaders of the seven biggest industrial economies - the United States, Britain, France, Germany, Japan, Canada and Italy and the President of the European Commission, Mr Gaston Thorn.

The gathering of so many heads of government, including President Reagan, together with up to a thousand officials and advisers and as many as 4,000 journalists, will pose a formidable security problem and work had already started on the arrangements before the date and venue were announced yesterday.

Lancaster House has often been used for conferences, including the Rhodesian Constitutional Conference and the 1977 summit, security measures are tried and tested.

London was preferred to a country site like Chequers or Leeds Castle in Kent because it is felt that the proceedings can be disrupted if the summit is not held somewhere central.

But Lancaster House does not have accommodation and deciding on safe housing for the participants will be a major problem. Ambassadors' residences and hotels such as Claridges are likely choices.

The summit will mean considerable work for Scotland Yard's Special Branch, which has a long-standing function to provide protection for important visitors. There are little more than 400 officers involved in Special Branch duties and extra men may have to be brought in from provincial forces.

The summit itself is unlikely to have a set agenda, after the success of the informal arrangements at Williamsburg, Pennsylvania, last year.

Slow death
warning to
shipyards

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

British shipbuilders' executives predicted a slow, painful death unless tomorrow's national strike was called off after a third day of fruitless talks at the London offices of the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service.

The BS negotiators did not meet union leaders who through officials, rejected a management offer that the strike should be limited in return for a suspension of new working practices.

Union negotiators last night urged delegates from the 23 shipyards where work is due to stop at 4.30pm. But there were growing signs that support might be wavering after a postal ballot of members of the 11,000 biggest union, the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union, which has about 9,000 workers in the yards, rejected a strike by 147 votes.

Most of the 10,000 white-collar workers are expected to report for work on Monday, but there was little sign of a weakening in the determination of delegates representing 40,000 manual workers last night.

Over the next 48 hours yard managements will appeal to their workforces to ignore the strike call. They will be told that several large orders will be lost if it goes ahead.

The December official services figures, released by the Treasury yesterday, also suggest modest intervention by the Bank of England to support the pound last month. There was an underlying drop in Britain's gold and foreign currency holdings of \$193m, leaving the reserves at \$17.8m (£12,271m).

The summit leaders will also consider a report commissioned at Williamsburg last year on ways of improving the international monetary system.

Nigeria's leader justifies
coup and scorns Shagari

Lagos (Reuters) Major-General Ibrahim Babangida, Nigeria's new head of state, yesterday defended the coup which brought him to power, saying the ousted government had not brought democracy to the country.

"Before apologists for democracy rush to judgment, let them admit that the presidential system of government and democracy, as practised in Nigeria in the last four years had become a veritable millstone around the country's neck," he said.

"Continuation of that system would have sunk Nigeria into the abyss of total economic collapse and political chaos," General Babangida said. "Shagari's Government openly plundered the national treasury."

Last year's federal and state elections in August and September had been shamelessly rigged, the General said. Government was imposed on the people by the "slandrous" use of a mixture of political thuggery and widespread bribery.

Sir Peter Hall, the director of the National Theatre, said last night: "To have Sunday performances is something I have wanted ever since we opened on the South Bank but we have costed it and the advertising has always worked out too high. This new development is very interesting and we will certainly be looking at the idea again in the light of it."

The Royal Shakespeare Company said that it was "very interested" by the development and was looking at ways of opening at the Barbican on Sundays.

Although a number of provincial theatres have negotiated agreements with Equity to open on Sundays in the past, the practice has not flourished among them.

Hailsham
raps
Woolies
judge

By Michael Horsnell

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, has reprimanded the judge who last November attacked an "unaffront to British justice" as a decision by G. W. Woolworth to prosecute a widow aged 77 for alleged shoplifting.

In a letter to Mr John Beckett, the chairman of Woolworth, he also apologised for Mr Recorder Goldstein's "intemperate remarks" and announced that he had taken steps to ensure that similar criticism is never again made by the judiciary.

At Wood Green Crown Court, North London the judge condemned Woolworth when Mrs Eva Ronsley, a mother of three, was brought before him charged with stealing £13 items worth £20 from the company's Edmonton store.

"If Woolworth want the sadistic pleasure of prosecuting this woman why will pay for it. I have every intention of making sure they pay their own costs and every penny of defence costs."

The store withdrew its case and a formal not guilty verdict was recorded against Mrs Ronsley of Flomstead End, Chesham.

Mr Goldstein, aged 48, a recorder of the Crown Court since 1980, told Mrs Ronsley: "May I apologise to you on behalf of all of us who are associated with the court that you, at 77, a lady who has worked hard throughout her life, bringing up a family and then having to be subjected to this humiliation."

Mr Recorder Goldstein also condemned the private prosecution as a "public disgrace".

Mr Beckett, who had accused the judge of "archaic, out-of-date and intemperate statements", had complained to Lord Hailsham shortly afterwards.

In a letter to Mr Beckett, Lord Hailsham said that it was not open to him to comment on decisions but he felt free to censure behaviour.

Lord Hailsham added: "I have read the documents and evidence from them that Recorder Goldstein's conduct was intemperate and made before he had heard the evidence in the case. It follows that his remarks should not have been made. I have written to him to this effect."

"The actions we took have been vindicated and I am very happy in such clear terms. If the recorder's comments that some over-age people should be regarded as incapable of prosecution had stood that would have been an invitation to staid and to expect to get off scot-free."

Mr Goldstein refused to comment on the Lord Chancellor's remarks.

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Sidi	£36	£25
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Review aims for all children to be educated in sciences

From Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent, Exeter

In June, 95,000 boys and girls will leave school without having done any science for two years because they are allowed to drop the subject in the fourth form. And about a third of all school children studied no science at all before the age of 11.

The statistics, given to the Association for Science Education conference in Exeter yesterday, are part of the reason for the radical reassessment of science teaching now taking place at the association instigation throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The secondary science curriculum review, which began in 1981 and will finish in 1986 at a cost of £2m, wants all children aged 11 to 16 to learn science. This reform has also been endorsed by the Royal Society, which wants all children to do the three science subjects of biology, chemistry and physics for a fifth of their lesson time.

Addressing a symposium at Exeter University, yesterday, Mr. Mick Michell, deputy director of the review, said that 2,500 teachers were taking part in the review in 83 local education authorities in England and Wales. They were looking at how to reduce the content of O level and CSE science syllabuses and how to update them. In physics examination papers, for example, there were no questions on developments in physics since 1930.

According to figures from the Department of Education and Science only 14 per cent of boys and 9 per cent of girls study all three sciences. In most branches of science, excluding human biology, boys significantly outnumber girls.

The review is aiming to develop a new curriculum for the average child, in contrast to previous initiatives which started with the bright children and worked out from there, Mr. Michell said.

The review is also concerned that whatever is developed should be acceptable to parents, employers and universities. Mr. Michell said that he had been involved with the School's Council integrated science project and knew what it was like not to have acceptability.

The review has already made proposals to the department for the reform of teacher training for science and, in reply to questions, Mr. Michell said that he was sure the examination board would change the syllabuses. "They swim with the tide and they can see there is a tide for science for all. If they do not swim with that tide they are going to find themselves out on a limb in 1988," he said.

"This is an increasingly scientific and technological society and yet the education system is still turning children on to the streets without any science background from the age of 13," he said.

Quality of research questioned

The quality of scientific research in the universities was questioned yesterday by Sir James Hamilton, former Permanent Secretary at the Department of Education and Science. The best was first class but some of it was distinctly mediocre, he said.

Sir James, who was delivering the presidential address to the Association for Science Education conference, said that the problem lay with university funding. The University Grants Committee should earmark grants specifically for research rather than limit student numbers in an attempt to maintain research spending.

"The process of earmarking is not without difficulty," he told the 2,000 teachers gathered at Exeter University. "There are administrative complexities and difficult judgments as between one university research group and another."

"There would, I am sure, be familiar cries of alarm under the banner of 'academic freedom' but, to my mind, the advantages of a much more effective distribution of limited funds for scientific research and the opportunity for a much more flexible approach to student numbers clearly outweigh the disadvantages."

Politechnics should also be more involved in scientific research.

TV venture in primary schools

Microelectronics will be introduced into primary schools through five BBC schools television programmes beginning next month. The programmes show children aged seven handling microelectronic circuits with confidence.

Describing the new venture yesterday, Professor Ted Wragg of Exeter University, and chairman of the Schools Broadcasting Council, explained how children of modest ability in Cyst, St Mary, Devon, could understand all the components in a circuit and what they did as well as the concept involved and the practical applications.

The programmes, which show children in the school doing the course, come with a pack containing the essential components for a circuit.

Speaking to the Association for Science Education in Exeter, Professor Wragg described the BBC programme as another series of BBC programmes beginning in March, which is designed to enable teachers who have no experience of teaching science in primary schools. There was a desperate need for a curriculum leader/coordinator who would gain knowledge and ideas and then enthuse his colleagues. There should also be more science fairs and more displays of science in primary schools.

Education authorities join protest

By Lucy Hodges

A group of education authorities responsible for one million school children in England has called for talks with Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, over cash cuts.

Education officials from 10 authorities in Yorkshire and Humberside have told him that further cuts, on top of earlier reductions, are creating "unavoidable" strains.

In a statement timed before his address to the North of England Education Conference, in Sheffield, they forecast that unless positive action is taken the nation will not have a skilled and educated workforce essential for economic recovery.

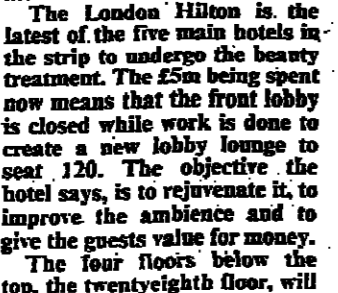
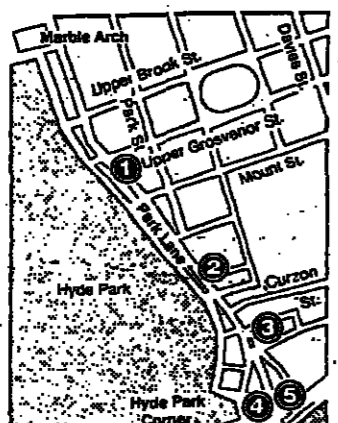
They say that to fund essential services they have had to increase the rates and to make savings by cutting maintenance, books, further education, and by increasing the price of school meals.

They blame the Government for reducing what it will pay for through the block grant and allowing pay awards to teachers to be larger than government targets.

Britain must be prepared for the perils of the technological revolution, Sir Frederick Dainton, chairman of the National Radiological Protection Board and a former university chancellor, said yesterday.

Sir Frederick, giving the opening presidential address to the North of England Education Conference, at Sheffield, said that one danger was that unscrupulous governments might use the electronic revolution to concentrate power in their own hands.

But the post-industrial revolution properly managed, could bring about the disappearance of boring and degrading jobs.



High jinks: Holidaying children enjoying an aerobics workshop at the National Oceanography Centre.

Doctors challenge minister on deputizing service curbs

By Nicholas Timmins

Seven out of ten family doctors would be effectively barred from using night and weekend deputizing services if the Government limits their use, Dr John Ball, chairman of the General Medical Services Committee, said yesterday.

Such a "draconian" restriction would make many existing services unviable, he said, and it was likely that 40 of the 50 services would be forced out of business.

In a letter to Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister of Health, Dr Ball said that such a reduction was "as unacceptable as it is impracticable".

He challenged Mr Clarke to produce evidence to justify such a restriction.

Dr Ball said that the British Medical Association has been flooded with complaints from family doctors over the proposed restrictions.

Those would allow a single doctor, and these in partnership of two, to use the services for a maximum of three nights a week and alternate weekends.

Larger partnerships and

group practices would be expected to provide their own cover. Seventy per cent of doctors are in such practices.

About 45 per cent of Britain's 29,000 family doctors use such services regularly and half are occasional users, the BMA says. Since the government's proposals, were published before Christmas some doctors have argued that the restrictions are a resignation issue.

Others say that they should threaten to resign from out of hours cover, a move that would require permission from their family practitioner committees, while others have demanded a special conference to fight the proposals.

Dr Ball said that talk of resignation was "premature, at this point". But he said there was anger over the proposal and the way Mr Clarke had presented the draft circular without consultation.

At a time when the government was attempting to limit junior doctors' hours of work, and on call to 80 a week, the proposals would expect many

family doctors to be on call longer than that, he said.

If family doctors were to provide a good service during the day, it was only reasonable that they should be able to recuperate and get a good night's rest, he said.

That was particularly true in inner-city areas, where there were more elderly and single-handed doctors many of whom would not be able to cope with the increased workload, he said. Deputizing services might survive in the city centres, but in other areas they would not be viable.

The proposals would affect non-profit making co-operative deputizing services, as well as commercial ones.

But the BMA's council reaffirmed yesterday "strong support" for properly supervised services, and said they should be available to "all doctors who wish to subscribe to them".

If the proposals went ahead, Dr Ball said, "bootleg" services might emerge, beyond monitoring control.

Roundsmen in retreat

Home-produced milk price war

By Hugh Clayton

The Norman invasion of the British dairy market will not destroy this country's system of doorstep deliveries. The 38,000 pints of long-life milk from Normandy farms which were cleared for sale on Tuesday will have little impact on sales of well over 10,000 million pints a year.

Their arrival is an important symbolic success for French farmers, enraged for years by the British denying their milk a foothold while importing heavy tonnages of New Zealand butter.

But the threat to British doorstep milk deliveries began before the European Court of Justice ruled that Britain's so-called health controls on milk were really a trade barrier in disguise.

Three years ago dairies quietly began to offer cut prices

to supermarket chains which bought milk in bulk. Before then there were only two prices for standard bottled milk: the first was charged by milkmen after secret bargaining about profits between dairy companies and ministers; the other, charged in shops, was a penny higher.

Then Sir John Sainsbury, chairman of the supermarket chain, complained to farmers that dairies were operating a price ring. A month later the Office of Fair Trading said that there was to be no investigation of milk pricing. That was because prices had begun to fall among the supermarket groups.

Milkmen now charged 21p a pint for bottled standard milk, while grocers offered it for as little as 16p in cardboard. The threat to the milkman is therefore of British origin.

Consumption of milk has started to rise, thanks to price-cutting and higher school milk subsidies, after falling for years. But the milkman looks increasingly out of step.

Dairies have long complained that the profit from a milk round resides in the last few pints. If a few households cancel orders, the profit goes.

Despite the rise in consumption milk deliveries are being reduced. The number of milk rounds in England offering Sunday delivery has just dropped below half.

The milkman, who is only a memory in most countries, now seems to face a period of attrition in Britain. Milk imports can only increase pressure on the trade, which still employs 30,000 roundsmen and well over 20,000 dairy workers.

A1 murder victim left £301,967

By Stewart Tandler

Mrs Janice Weston, the London solicitor who was found battered to death in a ditch by the A1 in Cambridgeshire last September, left more than £300,000 in her will published yesterday. Mr Anthony Weston, her husband, is a main beneficiary.

Six years ago Mrs Weston, aged 36 when she died, was left more than £100,000 by Mr Heinz Isner, chairman of the Mego toy company and a client and friend. Police investigating the death of Mrs Weston have interviewed members of Mr Isner's family as background to their inquiries.

In the will, which was published in London, Mrs Weston, who lived in Addison Avenue, Holland Park, west London, left an estate valued at £414,990 gross and £301,967 net before tax paid. Some jewelry and furniture is to be disposed by trustees according to instructions left by Mrs Weston.

Her husband is given the use for life of other furniture. Mrs Weston's mother receives £10,000 and Mrs Linda Davies, the dead woman's sister, inherits a third of the residue while Mr Weston receives the income from the other two-thirds of the residue for life. On his death the remainder will be shared equally by Mr Weston's two children and Mrs Weston's niece and two nephews.

Father charged

David Parr, aged 30, of Matlock, was remanded in custody until January 12 by magistrates in Matlock, Derbyshire, yesterday charged with murdering his six-week-old son, Michael.



(Photograph: Chris Harris).

Anglers left in peace by cruel sports league

By Hugh Clayton

The League Against Cruel Sports said yesterday that it opposed the shooting of grouse and pheasants as well as hunting with hounds. But the league, the largest anti-hunting group in Britain, said that it would not join the Hunt Saboteurs' Association in trying to win the abolition of fishing.

Mr Richard Course, executive director of the league, explained: "We are opposed to pheasant-shooting and grouse-shooting. But because of the activities of gamekeepers in killing off predatory birds, you have a massive explosion in the population of pigeons. We would have to say that people can shoot one type of bird but not another."

The league, which has strong links with the Labour Party, wants wildlife protection laws extended to include animals such as foxes and hares which are now hunted. It is also leading a campaign to persuade local authorities to ban hunting on their land.

Mr Course said that the league's policy on shooting was incomplete. It did not yet plan to campaign against any type of shooting sport, but it believed that far more poisonous lead was left in the countryside by shooters than by anglers.

He added that he did not know exactly why the league's elected leaders had decided not to oppose fishing.

"I am speculating. In my view our executive committee takes the line that fishing is nowhere as cruel as hunting with dogs. The whole thing about hunting is chasing an animal to exhaustion. They deliberately breed their dogs to be slower than their victims, but to have more stamina."

The British Field Sports Society said that the danger to anglers must be obvious to all fishermen. "The opponents of country sports are clearly broadening their attack on all fronts". Leading article, page 11

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Cocaine up fivefold in record year for drugs seizures

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

DRUG SEIZURES BY CUSTOMS		
Drug	1983 (1982)	Value (£000)
Cannabis	18,124 (16,824)	224.8m
Heroin	201 (189)	12.4m
Cocaine	71 (12)	214.2m
LSD	6,897 (6,000)	21.2m
Amphetamine	12 (10)	211.2m

Drug seizures by Britain's customs investigators rose yet again last year to a new record, with the discovery of heroin caches valued at £25m and cocaine valued at more than £12m in street sales.

The figures, issued yesterday, show that drugs seized by customs last year were valued at £62.9m compared with £50m in 1982. Heroin seizures rose by about 10 per cent and cocaine seizures increased fivefold.

Commenting on the seizures, Mr Peter Cutting, head of the customs investigation branch, said the increase in cocaine discoveries was due to more investigations. Cocaine had been a fashionable drug but there were signs that its popularity was waning.

Mr Cutting said that the proportional changes in the amounts of different drugs seized year by year did not necessarily mean a change in the amount of traffic, but indicated greater or lesser efforts by customs in that particular area. There was no way of calculating the true state of the market in one drug.

For a long time, cocaine smugglers had been using involved routes to move supplies from South America, and the same pattern was now beginning to show in heroin trafficking.

The main growth area remains the "golden crescent" area of Pakistan, Afghanistan

and Iran where up to 20,000 acres are available for opium poppy cultivation each year. The customs estimate that more than 88 per cent of the heroin seen in Britain last year came from the region.

Mr Cutting said that Heathrow airport remained the main point of entry for smugglers, but they were also trying to find other weak points. He said that the street price of heroin had remained stable and the increased seizures had not increased. However, he did not accept that that meant the market was flooded.

He said there was no evidence of a large-scale organization dominating the British market in the way he believed existed in the United States and the "panic" reporting on heroin use in the press.

Nonetheless, Mr Cutting said there was no reason for complacency. Since 1979 more drugs had become available on the streets.

Asked whether the customs service was still not devoting enough men to fighting the

heroin problem, Mr Cutting said that his men were working hard in the investigations. He said that the seizures were not now down to a few individuals but were always there. He said that the seizures were not now down to a few individuals but were always there.

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Golden day for selling big boats

By Kenneth Gosling

The largest vessel at this year's International Boat Show at Earls Court, London, had been sold to a British buyer yesterday - 24 hours before the event opened to the public.

The Hatteras 53ED, a twin-diesel motor cruiser with gold fittings, including a gold toothbrush, cost £400,000, plus £60,000 value-added tax.

The buyer's identity was not disclosed.

It is understood to have bought it for his own use and not for his engineering company.

Another sale, to another British buyer, was near completion yesterday afternoon.

Mr Paul Hadley, the sales manager, said: "If you were in a hurry, we could get you one in about three months. Sadly, these days it is not the stockholder who comes for this type of boat."

"The type of man most likely to buy it will be in the petrol business or something to do with computers. We also sell some nice big sailboats, 65-footers - we reckon to deal in between 320 to 340 big boats a year."

But it will be the minnows among the record number of 800 exhibits that most of the 250,000 expected visitors between now and January 15 will come to see. They include a GRP pram dinghy for under £150, or a sailboat for just under £100.

The organizers of this 30th show expect exhibitors to do good business, with a possible return to the boom years of sailing in the early 1970s.

Apart from boats, exhibits include a Wetbike, small radar systems, a rustproof folding bike, a wrist strap to cure travel sickness and inversion therapy boots.

These, a show official explained, are designed "to cure backache and loss of hair and to keep you young."

Show visitors will also be regaled by the jazz bands and can-can dancers who will perform daily on the deck of the Mississippi sternwheeler in the poolside harbour.

The show is organized for the Ship and Boat Builders National Federation by National Boat Shows Ltd and the Daily Express.

Although hard-pressed local authorities might be tempted to turn more people away, Shelter calls on them to give housing a far greater priority so that "this major social scandal can be tackled properly."

Mr McIntosh says the the only answer is more resources. We must build more houses, improve more houses and reduce more people into modern homes. We must also ensure that the greatest help goes to those in greatest need."

Homeless face 'a bleak year'

By Christopher Warman

Property Correspondent

This year is likely to be "the blackest for several decades" for homeless people, Mr Neil McIntosh, director of Shelter, the national campaign for homeless people, says today in a new message to supporters.

He says that nearly 170,000 households, the equivalent of a city like Bradford, may be forced to seek help from local councils in 1984 because they are homeless or threatened with homelessness.

"The huge housing cuts imposed by the Government, combined with the high level of council house sales, means that local authorities will have even greater difficulties in coping with the thousands of homeless people," Mr McIntosh argues. "Already, fewer than half of those applying for help were accepted for housing, and the remainder are obliged to fend for themselves."

Mr McIntosh says the Government has denied the cuts on the ground of economic necessity. But at the same time the Government increases tax relief to owner-occupiers, proposes to give substantial hand-outs to better off tenants to help them buy, and continues a system in which the wealthiest households receive nearly three times as much subsidy as standard rate taxpayers for the same size of mortgage.

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Plea to help find murder shotgun

Detectors appealed yesterday to villagers to help to find a 12-bore shotgun and four cases from cartridges used in the murder of Rosalind Richards, a village girl, aged 18, and Rodney Pellow, aged 32, who were found dead in a caravan in the village of Manacah, Cornwall, two days after Christmas.

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Today's Taste of Utopia

January 1st

- Today's New Year's taste of Utopia welcomes 1984 as The Year of Unified Field Based Civilization, with rays of positivity and optimism created by the assembly of over 7,000 experts in the Maharishi Technology of the Unified Field at Maharishi International University, Fairfield, Iowa, U.S.A.
- Americans feel immediate future will be significantly better says nation-wide poll.
 - Soviet leaders say Soviet people enter 1984 with feeling of optimism and confidence, and pledge that the Soviet Union and other countries of the Soviet bloc are taking all measures needed to preserve peace.
 - Growing hope among Western leaders that recent contacts between U.S. and Soviet Union will lead to improved relations, says BBC World Service.
 - Greek Prime Minister and Romanian President send joint letter to U.S. and Soviet Heads of State urging co-operation in peace efforts.
 - Opening of world's longest natural gas pipeline marks milestone in co-operation between Soviet Union and Western Europe.
 - Chairman of State Council of Poland emphasizes importance of action to consolidate peace, lessen international tension, and broaden co-operation between countries of different social systems.
 - China proposes reunification talks with Taiwan offering large measure of autonomy.
 - South Africa Prime Minister foresees better relations with neighbouring African states.
 - Calm in Lebanon welcomes New Year.
 - Progress in human rights seen in El Salvador.
 - California legislators enjoy new prospect of \$1.5 billion surplus in contrast to last year's \$1.5 billion deficit.
- Tomorrow's taste of Utopia tomorrow...
- Maharishi International University, Fairfield, Iowa 52556, USA

Pub video company to wind down business

By Bill Johnson and Andrew Cornelius

Teletext, the company which only 10 months ago offered £8m to the Football League for the rights to show games in its national public house and club video network, is to seek no new business. The move will mean dismissing 140 of its staff and writing off more than £5m.

The group, a subsidiary of London and Liverpool Trust made no profits in the past six months, according to Mr Astley Whittall, who became L.L.T. chairman seven weeks ago. The 2,000 video machines which have been installed will continue however to be serviced, the company says.

Teletext surprised the BBC and the independent television companies by outbidding them in an attempt to acquire the rights to show selected football games on video. A month after the offer was made it was withdrawn.

The Football League said yesterday: "We treated their offer very seriously until they withdrew it fairly late in the day because they felt the league was taking too long to make up its mind."

Mr Whittall said that the chance of securing national advertising after the league deal was aborted was small and so the videos were supported by local advertising. The contracts between Teletext and its outlets are for five years.

The 140 sales staff are to be made redundant while 40 are to remain to service present contracts. The company will save about £250,000 a month operating costs but hopes to salvage the capital investment.

The machines are leased by publicans and club owners from Teletext through a leasing company. Video films and advertisements are provided by Teletext for screening on the machines.

London and Liverpool Trust has experienced a number of problems over the past six months with the resignation of its chairman, Mr Jeffrey Bonas, and a fall in profits for the first six months of the last financial year ending in September from £2.5m to £1m. By the end of last month the company's shares were worth less than a tenth of the 350p they stood at during a 1983 high.

No decision has been made about the future of Teletext but L.L.T. is expected to concentrate on its other activities which is the marketing and leasing of photocopyers, computing and telecommunications equipment.

Kodak is to enter the video market this year with an 8mm camera-recorder system and video tape for home and professional use (the Press Association reports).

TDK will manufacture the tapes in Japan and Matsushita the 8mm hardware. Kodak will inspect the products to certify quality.

Cabinet dilemma in 1953

'Wets' stopped spending cuts

By Peter Hennessy and David Walker

In a remarkable parallel with the present day, Sir Winston Churchill's Conservative Government of 30 years ago carried out a wide-ranging review of social spending, and then considered, and discarded, many of the same options for cuts as those now confronting Mrs Thatcher's administration.

The newly released Cabinet records show that in 1953 Mr R. A. Butler, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, ordered a survey of possible cuts in health, education and social security spending. Ministers were faced with a list that would produce the savings but would also provoke "serious political opposition."

Among the 1953 options apparently still on the agenda were the charging of fees for educational courses, cutting student grants, reducing housing subsidies, failing to keep pensions in line with inflation and trimming welfare benefits.

But in Churchill's Cabinet the "wets" of the day, including Mr Butler, held sway and could rely on Churchill's own paternalist views on social spending. The hardliners, who included Mr Peter (later Lord) Thorneycroft, President of the Board of Trade, were in a distinct minority.

The 1953 records show that the Cabinet was beset by fears of a recession in the United States that would drag world trade down and force the British Government to cut its spend-

ing. On the one hand Cabinet committees worked to produce a "reserve list" of public works needed to avoid extensive unemployment if the recession hit Britain; on the other Mr Butler ordered his detailed review of spending in all departments, including defence.

An attempt was made to reverse the policy of encouraging people to move out of London and the big cities to the new towns that were in the middle of construction. But Mr Harold Macmillan, Minister of Housing and Local Government, was determined to reach his target of 300,000 houses built a year, and housing subsidies remained in place.

The minutes show there was lengthy discussion of a policy that would find no favour nowadays. In 1953 unemployment was at historically low levels, and ministers favoured one way of keeping more people at work for longer while simultaneously reducing the cost of pensions: raising the retirement age from 65 to 70.

In retrospect the Treasury's forward projections of public spending from 1953 to 1963 look hopelessly underestimated; but projections also underestimated the growth in the economy, which ensured that the darkest of Treasury fears for government spending and income never came to pass.



R. A. Butler: Detailed review ordered

Police chauffeur inquiry

The Chief Constable of the West Midlands was asked yesterday to investigate the cost of providing him and seven other officers with chauffeur-driven cars.

Sir Philip Knights, his deputy chief constable and six assistant chief constables have chauffeur-driven cars for official functions and to take them to and from home to their offices.

Sir Philip has his own car which, for security reasons, is driven by a police officer, but the others take their civilian chauffeurs and vehicles from a force pool of 30 cars.

At yesterday's meeting of the West Midlands police committee, Mr Ted Bentley a Labour member, demanded to know how much this cost.

He said other metropolitan counties provided chauffeur-driven cars for their chief constables, but paid a car allowance to other senior officers.

"I do not feel that the chief constable can justify the fact that all our assistant chief constables are picked up from home and brought to the office," he accepted that Sir Philip should have a chauffeur, but not the other senior officers.

Sir Philip told the committee he would investigate the cost and report back.

Halt NUJ meeting call

Four former members of the national executive of the National Union of Journalists called yesterday for the cancellation of the union's planned special delegate meeting on January 21 over the Dimbleby Newspapers issue.

On February 1, the House of Lords will be hearing an appeal against a High Court order that the union should call off industrial action against Dimbleby Newspapers, and the four felt it would be legally dangerous to go ahead with the special meeting.

Mr Jim French, Mr Mark Kahn, Mr Terence Kelly and Mr Howard Whitten, say that to hold the meeting a few days before the issue is to be heard by the highest appeal court in the land would be contempt. "Hundreds of members were angered when our leaders first put the union's funds at risk, and they do not want it to happen again," they said.

"They were alarmed when the executive first decided to defy the High Court injunction. And now it would be absurd for a journalists' union to flout the sub judice principle."

An NUJ spokesman said that a special meeting of the union's executive had been called for next week when the position would be considered further.

The Selby coalfield

Miners spruce up and cut costs

From Ronald Faux, Selby

Uncertainty at many traditional pits in the coalfields of Yorkshire and the North-east has shifted the focus for the future of mining on the super-pits of the North and the development of such huge reserves as the Selby field in East Yorkshire.

With Mr Arthur Scargill's "hit list" of pits earmarked for closure still regarded as fiction by the National Coal Board, any miners see the manpower losses in recent years and the performance expected from the new pits as amounting to the same thing.

In Selby, which lies on a lump of coal the size of the Isle of Wight, the transformation of the miner has been most marked, and suspicions that rural pits would be shattered by an invasion of grimy and aggressive individuals have largely faded.

The image of the modern miner in the Selby area is altogether more spruce and socially acceptable. A top earner in the industrial wages league more often a technician than mere muscle power for a pit.

A research paper from York University, commenting on the miner's new image and the fresh corporate look for coal, said: "It seems that in Selby the hard-living miner of the past will be replaced by an affluent contemporary more in



Mr Scargill: "Hit list" of pits

they worked at a different sort of job, but what is there, these days? People have been very friendly and could not have been more welcoming, though."

She said that some families had moved but had gone back to the old mining areas because they felt they had left their roots behind.

The problems with flooding at Whitworth mine, where her two sons work underground, are a reminder that even with a modern pit the old dangers remain.

Visitors were constantly asking the way to the mine at Stillingfleet. They drove straight past it without realizing that the oblong towers of mellow-coloured brickwork marked a mine.

A publican said: "There are none of the conventional signs of a colliery. They tell me that there will not be a single lump of coal on the surface and that there will be no slag heaps. The miners come in here and they are friendly, ordinary folk. I have not seen a single mucky face," he said.

Mr Kenneth Capstick, aged 42, bought a bungalow in Sherburn when he moved to the Selby field last February. He is the Stillingfleet delegate for the NUM and felt the offer of assistance to buy a house from the coal board was difficult to refuse. The board helped towards the mortgage payments.

Even so, there had been difficulties, particularly for the wives. "The man goes out for eight or nine hours at a stretch; in Wakefield the wife had everything she wanted on the doorstep; places to go, friends, somewhere to work, regular public transport."

"But some of the villages around here are like Wakefield on a wet Sunday. There is nothing to do, so the wife gets depressed. It has broken up some marriages and some husbands have decided to move their families back and commute."

"That is no criticism of the locals in Sherburn - they have been tremendously welcoming. There seems little chance that the old, strong community sense can be restored in Selby."

£30m scheme to strengthen Severn Bridge

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

The Government is expected later this month to approve the spending of more than £30m to strengthen the Severn Bridge. The work, which could take more than two years, comes after widespread concern over safety and the economic consequences of closure.

Only one lane is open in each direction on the bridge, which one independent report said could collapse in exceptional circumstances.

The strengthening work is likely to involve building new support legs in the towers; replacing the steel ropes from which the bridge is suspended and renewing the surface of the bridge, possibly with specially-coated plywood panels.

The announcement will not curb growing demands for an immediate feasibility study into a second crossing. The Wales CBI says that traffic trends make a new crossing essential even if the present bridge was operating at full capacity.

Local authority representatives and industrialists from South Wales and the West County are to meet Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, in London to press their case.

Next Monday, a second conference of local authorities from both sides of the Severn is to be held in Gwent.

Engineer loses fight against new breath-test

From Our Correspondent, Manchester

A company director who said the new computer breath-test machine could give false readings lost his fight to keep his driving licence yesterday.

The Lion Intoximeter 3000 showed that Mr Eric Pyatt had consumed the equivalent of eight or nine pints of beer. Manchester city magistrates were told and they convicted him of driving with excess alcohol in his blood.

He was fined £100, banned from driving for 12 months and ordered to pay £200 costs.

Mr Pyatt, aged 51, of Anselm Avenue, Crumpsall, Manchester, said he was astounded when told the machine indicated more than twice the legal limit.

He said he had had five half pints of lager, a glass of wine and a glass of port.

But during the two-day hearing, Dr Paul Williams, who was called as an expert witness, said the machine had faults and some errors were in favour of the motorist.

Of the machine which tested Mr Pyatt, he said: "There was nothing in its print-out to suggest it was not working properly."

Mr Eric Shannon, a barrister for Mr Pyatt, said his client was employed as a marine engineer and drove between 35,000 and 40,000 miles a year.

Bitter peach harvest in Calabria

Someone had to make a sampler.

Youth revolt challenges Tunisian success

From Godfrey Morrison, Rabat

Despite the declaration of a state of emergency, shooting was heard from the university area and the northern suburbs of Tunis yesterday, while comparative calm returned to the centre of the capital, the scene on Tuesday of violent riots.

By declaring an emergency President Habib Bourguiba, who is 80, has handed responsibility for law and order to the army, and tanks were stationed yesterday at strategic points in the city.

The unrest, which has so far left at least 15 people dead, began in southern Tunis last



Order restored: An army tank stationed in the centre of Tunis yesterday

Britons safe

Thomson Holidays, which has 600 clients on holiday in Tunisia, said yesterday that they had been advised to stay in their hotels, although few were aware of any trouble. The main resorts of Hammamet and Monastir are well away from the trouble spots. No excursions are being run from the hotels at present.

The manager of the Sahara Beach Hotel, near Monastir, said: "We have over 700 guests, 300 of them British. They are all very happy, the temperature is 75-80°F and there are no problems."

week and has shattered the calm of a country with one of the most enviable records in Africa for political stability and economic progress.

As so often in Africa, the riots followed a rise in the price of the country's staple food - in this case, a doubling of the cost of a loaf of bread.

Tuesday's violence in Tunis appears to have been more serious than official announcements have suggested, with informed sources and eye-witnesses telling *The Times* by

"Apart from the incidents involving students and Muslim fundamentalists, there had been no serious trouble in the capital since 1978, when a general strike, again partly caused by price rises, degenerated into violence in which estimates of casualties vary from about 20 to more than 100 dead."

Informal sources in Tunis said it was impossible to estimate the number of killed and wounded in the present trouble because there had been so widespread rioting from the south, and Tunis they have affected places such as Kef.

So far as was known, the disturbances had not so far affected Bizerta or other towns in the north, the sources said.

The present violence will put a question mark over Tunisia's hesitant progress towards democracy. It comes less than two months after President Bourguiba announced the legalization of two opposition parties, and his intention to legislate for the introduction of pluralism in both politics and the trade unions.

For more than a quarter of a century his Destourian Socialist Party has enjoyed a virtual monopoly of political power. It

is known that the moves towards democracy, vigorously promoted by the Prime Minister, Mr Muhammad M'Zali, President Bourguiba's successor-designate, and by Wassila, the President's influential wife, were equally vigorously resisted by some hardliners in the political establishment.

That the young and often well-educated unemployed can cause such mayhem in a country as economically successful and well-managed as Tunisia - it has enjoyed almost uninterrupted economic growth since independence - underlines the daunting task faced by

Africa's leaders in a recession. Urged by the International Monetary Fund, economists and bankers to reduce budget deficits by cutting government expenditure, including subsidies on basic commodities, African governments are forced to slow down economic machines which, even in good times, cannot provide enough jobs to keep pace with high birth rates.

Even in prosperous countries such as Tunisia, social security services are rudimentary, and when the unemployed go on the streets it is not to form orderly dole queues, but to try to overthrow the Government.

Scores die as Israeli planes hit Shia bases in Bekaa

From Our Correspondent, Beirut

Israeli jets bombed and strafed towns in Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley for an hour yesterday, leaving scores of people dead.

At least 10 fighters were involved in the attack over Syrian-controlled territory, aimed at bases used by pro-Iranian Shia Muslim militias and Iranian Revolutionary Guards. On Tuesday Israeli jets struck at Palestinian guerrilla encampments in Lebanon's central mountains.

Reports from the area indicated that among the sites hit yesterday on the outskirts of Baalbeck and in villages nearby, were the Wavell Palestinian Refugee Camp, a police barracks, a restaurant and a filling station.

Beirut radio put the death toll at nearly 100, with at least 400 injured. No breakdown was

available on civilian and military casualties. The Israeli Military Command in Tel Aviv said its pilots scored accurate hits on two guerrilla bases and returned safely.

Israel blames the Shia militias in the Bekaa - the Islamic Amal movement and Hezbollah - for the November bomb attack on its military headquarters in the southern Lebanese port city of Tyre.

Meanwhile in Beirut the Saudi mediator Mr Rafik Hariri, arrived as the Government of President Amin Gemayel prepared to announce a security agreement aimed at ending civil war in Lebanon.

Mr Chafic Wazzan, the Prime Minister, said Lebanese leaders had agreed to the plan and that "only very few details remain to be crystallized".

Under the plan, developed with Mr Hariri's assistance, buffer zones will be created along the front lines of last September's battle areas. Foreign time observers may be called in if needed.

Government security forces will also take over positions, particularly along strategic highways, controlled by sectarian militias.

In the Bekaa Syrian troops and civil defence volunteers worked through the day pulling victims from the rubble of buildings. Radio broadcast frequent appeals for blood donors.

Threats in the wake of increased attacks on Israeli patrols in southern Lebanon, drew angry criticism from Lebanese Muslim leaders and threats of increased guerrilla action against Israel.

Britain cool to Falkland proposal

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

Britain reacted coolly yesterday to the Argentine proposal for a transfer of sovereignty over the Falkland Islands based on a special statute to guarantee the interests of the islanders.

The Argentine proposal, announced in Buenos Aires on Tuesday, was the first official policy statement on the Falklands by the new Government of President Raul Alfonsín.

In an official statement the Foreign Office in London said it had not yet seen the text of the Argentine Foreign Ministry's statement, but when received it would be studied carefully.

"It appears that the statement is based on the premise that the outcome of any negotiations on the Falkland Islands must be the transfer of sovereignty to Argentina, regardless of the wishes of the islanders."

"British ministers have made clear that they stand by their commitment to the islanders and are not entering into negotiations about sovereignty," the Foreign Office said.

In the British Government's view, the way ahead for Anglo-Argentine relations should be to start in practical areas in which agreement should be possible. These could include the normalization of trade and economic relations, repatriation of the Argentine dead, and visits by next of kin.

As a result, the imprisoned leaders have been offered, first discreetly, then openly, the possibility of emigrating. But some of the defendants - above all, the two key dissidents, Mr Jacob Kuron and Mr Adam Michnik - have rejected this and would like to use a trial to demonstrate what they believe to be the fragility of the Jaruzelski Government and the errors of socialist policies.

This would be a severe embarrassment (Soviet journals have already been criticizing Polish establishment figures for their diluted socialism), so church efforts to free the

prisoners in a mutually acceptable, face-saving way have met with a reasonably sympathetic response.

The negotiations have been kept secret, at least in their details. But some church activists believe that a formula, under which Mr Kuron is given a scholarship to the Vatican university and the others are released, on condition they abstain from political activity for a specified period might be acceptable.

Church meets state

Glemp seeks way to free top prisoners

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Cardinal Jozef Glemp, who will meet General Wojciech Jaruzelski and make a fresh attempt to find a formula to secure the release of Poland's 11 most controversial political prisoners, church sources said yesterday.

Mr Jerzy Urban, the government spokesman, confirming the meeting, said humanitarian issues, the status of the church and the church fund for private farmers would be on the agenda.

But church advisers have made clear that humanitarian issues would include how to free seven imprisoned Solidarity leaders and four members of the dissident KOR group.

Lay Catholics - some of who acted as advisers to the Solidarity trade union before martial law - have been talking to the authorities about freeing the prisoners, who have been awaiting trial on charges of attempting to overthrow the state for the past two years.

The authorities would apparently like to avoid a big political trial - it would be the most significant in Poland for some 25 years and would almost certainly open up old wounds - but not at the price of seeming weak.

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Jumbos in near-miss at 37,000 ft

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

The United States Federal Aviation Administration is investigating a near-miss involving two Pan American Jumbo jets with a combined total of more than 500 people on board.

The aircraft - one from London, the other from New York - came within about 600ft of each other over the Bahamas on New Year's Day, according to an FAA spokesman in Atlanta yesterday.

The pilot of a DC10, carrying 340 people on a charter flight from New York to St Martin in the Virgin Islands turned away sharply when he saw a Boeing 747 bound from London to Miami with 166 people.

The aircraft were at 37,000ft, about 185 miles east of Miami. The incident happened at 4.30 in the afternoon.

The Washington Post reported yesterday that the airliners had come within 50ft of each other, but the FAA said reports indicated the distance was 600ft.

The FAA and the National Transportation Safety Board want to find out why they were at the same altitude on intersecting courses.

The area manager of the Miami air route traffic control centre, Mr James Reilly, said the airliners should not have been assigned the same altitude, and there had been a lack of coordination. "Somewhere along the line, we goofed," he said.

The airliners were in different but adjacent sectors under the control of the Miami air traffic centre.



Together again: Navy Lieutenant Robert Goodman reunited yesterday with his family after flying home with the Rev Jesse Jackson, who negotiated his release from Syria

Bose film shown despite Delhi objections

By Rupert Morris

The screening of a controversial Granada television documentary on the Indian National Army and its leader, Subhas Chandra Bose, went ahead last night, despite objections from the Indian Government.

Sir Denis Forman, chairman of Granada, wrote to Mr P. V. Narasimha Rao, India's Foreign Minister, to say his objections were based largely on miscon-

ceptions about the content of the film and several misquotations taken from Indian newspapers.

The role of Bose and the Indian National Army, which accepted aid from Axis powers in the Second World War and tried to join forces with the Japanese, is still a highly sensitive subject in India. Several leading politicians had demanded that the Government bar Granada from India if the film were shown.

Mr David Boulton, the producer, said last night he was confident the Indian Government would be satisfied, when it saw the film, that every effort had been made to treat the subject fairly.

Any truthful account would upset some Indians, as there was such a deep division of opinion about Bose and his place in Indian history, he said.

Mr Boulton said none of the Indian ministers who had complained had seen the film

Journalism mourns Richard Hughes

A legend who lives on in fiction

By Richard Dowden

Mr Richard Hughes, *The Times* Hongkong correspondent and the best known and most colourful veteran newspaperman in the Far East, died in Hongkong yesterday aged 77.

His career spanned half a century and included exclusive interviews with Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean in Moscow in 1956. As a journalist he was renowned for his coverage of Japan and Hongkong in the 1950s and 1960s and his writings on China in the first years after the revolution.

A big, brawny Australian, Hughes started as a reporter on *The Star* in Melbourne in 1934 and went on to write for leading journals in the Far East, including the *Far Eastern Economist*. He also wrote a number of books, the best known being *Borrowed Place*, *Borrowed Time*, an introduction to journalism, and last year the Australian Government awarded him a special pension.

He died in hospital, where he had been for five weeks with a liver complaint.

As he grew older Hughes, almost an institution in Hongkong, became more famous as a personality than as a journalist. John Le Carré used him, barely disguised, as the character Caw in his novel *The Honourable Schoolboy*, and Ian Fleming, his former editor at *The Sunday Times*, based the Australian detective Dikko Henderson on him in the novel *You Only Live Twice*.

In a statement issued last night, John Le Carré said Hughes was an "enormously generous man." He wrote to him before writing *The Honourable Schoolboy* to ask if he objected to being used as a character. He wrote back to say: "You libel me to the hilt, and that's an order."

"It was his generosity that was remarkable," Le Carré said, "and the ribald gut-tending humour. The last thing he said to my face was 'Goodbye, son. Keep your arse to the sunset'."

A measure of his eminence in Hongkong is the plaque bearing his name and image over his favourite table in the Grill Room of the Hongkong Hilton. "It was a sort of shrine," a

friend remembers. In the Foreign Correspondents Club, which he helped found and presided over for many years, there has been a bust of him for more than five years.

Mr Frank Giles, former editor of *The Sunday Times* who saw Hughes just before he went into hospital, said yesterday: "Dick's death means the end of a living legend. I don't suppose there was a newspaperman in the world with a greater and more justified reputation for being a 'character'. Yet behind the eccentricity and flamboyance there was a shrewd and well-stored mind."

"He was a lapsed Roman Catholic but always pretended to be an archbishop, referring to everyone as 'Your Grace' and making the sign of the cross at every opportunity."

Mr Derek Davies, editor of the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, said Hughes highlighted the emergence of Japan and China after the Second World War. "He was a true professional, but above all he was great company. He was like sitting down at a table with Falstaff," he said.

Obituary, page 12

Elgin time sharing proposed by Kinnock

From Mario Modiano, Athens

A time-sharing formula that would allow the Elgin Marbles, now in the British Museum, to be near the Acropolis in Athens - their original site - for most of the time, is being put to the Greek Government by Mr Neil Kinnock, the British Labour Party leader.

Mr Kinnock, who is here with his wife and two teenage children as the official guest of Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Prime Minister, is meeting Miss Melina Mercouri, the Greek Minister of Culture, today to discuss his proposal.

"I want to see what her responses are to my suggestions before we take any action," he said.

The Kinnocks were guests yesterday at an informal luncheon at Mr Papandreu's country house at Kastrí, north of Athens. The two Socialist leaders had a one-hour private meeting during which they broached a wide range of topics, including the reform of the European Community, Cyprus and the Middle East. "We agreed on almost everything," the Labour leader said.

Earlier the Kinnocks had visited the fifth-century BC Acropolis, from where Lord Elgin removed the marbles almost two centuries ago, while Greece was still under Ottoman rule.

Mr Kinnock told journalists that he wondered how the British would feel if part of the Crown jewels were in another country.

"The Greek people must have access to the marbles. I think that in modern times, with the availability of transport and the construction of a new museum (in Athens), some arrangement can be reached to ensure that, for a substantial proportion of time, the marbles are at or near their original site."

He refused to elaborate until he had seen Miss Mercouri, but said it would be a step in the right direction if discussions could be switched to the possibility of exchange, occasional rotation and access to the marbles. He emphasized that the nationality of the Acropolis marbles could not be disputed; they were as Greek as Wembley stadium was British.

He was asked if that would be the Labour Party's policy on the Elgin marbles if it came to power. "I actually think that an arrangement can be made even before that, because of the Force of logic and of international amity," he replied.

Reports in the official press yesterday said the prisoners were in generally good health, though Mr Kuron was being treated for a kidney ailment and some of the others had stomach complaints, including ulcers.

Although the leadership of the Solidarity underground had not surrendered, they were now, said Mr Urban, "generals without armies".

Mr Carrington praised the Secretary-General-elect of Nato, Lord Carrington, was praised yesterday by the *Zyrie* Harzard newspaper for his flexibility and "sceptical view of Cold War rhetoric."

Although Lord Carrington pursued a hard anti-communist line as British Foreign Secretary, he had a developed sense and understanding of history and of the need to accept compromises, the paper said.

Leading article, page 11.

Young technocrat to lead Bulgarian economy

Vienna (Reuters) - Bulgaria has introduced a new government and Communist Party team to guide its economy, one of the most successful in East Europe, through present hard times. Western diplomats and political analysts said yesterday.

The reshuffle, announced on Tuesday after sessions of Parliament and the Central Committee, if of more economic than political significance, though it strengthens further the hand of the party leader, President Todor Zhivkov.

Bulgaria, "one of Moscow's most loyal allies, is one of the poorest countries in Europe, but has recorded impressive growth rates in recent years."

The changes merging four ministries into two reshuffling economic portfolios, and appointing new members to the Politburo, are aimed at improving economic management. Analysts say decentralizing reforms have not been implemented fully and the hoped-for flexibility has not materialized.

The man charged with putting this right is Mr Chudomir Alexandrov, a technocrat who has worked his way up through the party apparatus.

One of the two full Politburo appointments, he was formerly a secretary of the Central Committee and party head in Sofia. Like many of those receiving new appointments on Tuesday, Mr Alexandrov, aged

30 hurt at Talbot in day of fighting

Paris (Reuters) - The future of Peugeot's Talbot car plant near Paris is in doubt after fresh clashes yesterday between strikers and workers trying to restart production lines.

Company officials said about 30 people were injured when, for the second day running, an estimated 1,500 strikers protesting against job cuts prevented production. Strikers hurled bolts and car parts at workers trying to restart the assembly line, they added, while the strikers said foremen in the paint shop threw tear gas bombs and used fire extinguishers to keep them out.

Production of 1,200 cars a day at the Poissy plant has been halted for nearly a month because of the strike.

Broker held in torture chamber

Pittsburgh (AP) - A disgruntled investor dressed as Santa Claus abducted his broker from a Christmas party and punished him for 12 days in a home-made torture chamber because \$500,000 in deals had gone sour.

Mr Robert Hase, aged 49, was freed on a farm 50 miles south of Pittsburgh where police found him chained and handcuffed to a bed. The torture chamber included a makeshift electric chair.

French leave

Paris (AFP) - French police have arrested a professional confidence trickster who for two weeks last summer operated from an office in the Interior Ministry, handling official files and demanding bribes for services rendered. He got the job after being released from jail.

Lover's revenge

Manila (Reuters) - A 21-year-old student, jilted by the girl next door, killed four of his relatives, including two children, scrawled a love message on their living-room wall, then fled with cash and jewels worth about £12,000.

Zulus arrested

Pietermaritzburg (RFP) - South African security forces arrested 60 Zulus in connection with the killing of a civilian and three black policemen investigating the theft of a herd of goats.

Disney death

Anaheim, California (AP) - A woman visiting Disney land was killed when she fell off a car on the Matterhorn bobsleds ride and was struck by another sled, amusement park officials said.

Sergeant flees

Hanover (Reuters) - A uniformed East German police sergeant fled across the fortified frontier into West Germany during the night, the Hanover border guard said.

Correction

A headline, "Catalans back IRA bombers" (December 28), gave a wrong impression of our report, which was that a minority Catalan political organization had objected to the suggested ouster of Sinn Féin after the Harrods bombing.



Miss Mercouri: Seeing Mr Kinnock today

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Mondale is outplayed by Jesse Jackson but should win the match

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

It was bad luck for Mr. Walter Mondale, the former Vice-President, that the speech he delivered to the National Press Club on Tuesday, marking the 1984 kick-off of his presidential nomination campaign, should have been overshadowed by the success of the Rev. Jesse Jackson, one of his chief rivals, in securing the release of Lieutenant Robert Goodman from Syria.

Mr. Mondale's campaign staff had hoped to attract national attention for their candidate by arranging the speech during the traditionally quiet period preceding the President's State of the Union address towards the end of January. As it turned out, reports of the inside pages of newspapers and brief references on television news.

Those political commentators who have been predicting for months that Mr. Mondale would eventually become afflicted with front-runneritis, as Senator Edmund Muskie did in 1972, believe Mr. Mondale's coup would be an omen that Mr. Mondale's spectacular series of recent successes in recent months may be coming to an end at last.

However, given the professionalism with which the Mondale campaign has been conducted, it seems likely the former Senator from Minnesota will easily survive Mr. Jackson's temporary media blitz.

Mr. Mondale, who celebrates his fifty-sixth birthday today, has scarcely put a foot wrong. Since he began planning his presidential challenge in 1981, he has built up the largest and most sophisticated campaign organization in the history of the Democratic Party.

This has enabled him to attract the big money he will need to pour into the key primary contests which get under way next month. He has raised almost \$10m (£6.5m) and \$4.5m more in matching federal funds, which is more than the combined total of the seven other Democratic contenders.



Mr Mondale: Has hardly put a foot wrong

He has also sown up the endorsements of important constituencies like the trade unions, teachers and the National Organization of Women. The one significant group he has failed to convince is black voters, many of whom cannot be expected to direct their support to the charismatic Mr. Jackson.

Mr. Mondale's organizational successes are reflected by his high standing in the opinion polls. The most recent (which preceded the release of Lieutenant Goodman) showed Mr. Mondale far in front, with 64 per cent, followed by Senator John Glenn, with 29 per cent, and Mr. Jackson, with 10 per cent.

His lead over Senator Glenn, with whom he was running neck-and-neck only a few months ago, also reflects the disarray and bad campaign tactics of the Glenn camp.

Mr. Mondale's advisers - and many independent analysts - believe the former Vice-President is assured of easy victories in the two vital opening bouts of the campaign, the Iowa caucuses on February 20 and the New Hampshire primary on February 27.

So confident is he, in fact, that while his rivals are busy themselves trying to drum up support in those two states, Mr. Mondale has embarked on a

tour of the South where his support is said to be weakest. Barring any unforeseen disasters - and so far, Mr. Mondale, who has been in public life longer than any of his rivals, has not dropped any political clangers - it is hard to see how he can fail to secure the Democratic nomination when the party holds its convention in San Francisco in July.

But (and it is a big but), the question being asked is - how will he fare against President Reagan who is due to declare his candidacy on January 20? In his speech on Tuesday, Mr. Mondale set out the three themes of a campaign which he hopes will persuade voters to support him rather than Mr. Reagan. He would offer, he declared, "a more competitive economy, a more just society and a safer world".

It was significant that he chose to devote his opening speech of the year to the third theme. Democrats believe Mr. Reagan is most vulnerable in the areas of foreign policy and defence.

In foreign affairs, however, the Reagan record is much more chequered. As Mr. Mondale put it in his speech: "The Middle East and Central America are at war... US-Soviet relations are in crisis and the arms talks have collapsed."

Whether voters will view Mr. Mondale as "a President who knows what he's doing" and who would "use America's strength to build a safer world" remains to be seen. His performance on Tuesday showed him to be an effective, if not inspiring, speaker who is able to respond to questions far more adeptly than President Reagan.

But he still suffers from a reputation of "whimphiness", which he developed as President Carter's Vice-President. This, together with the widely-held view among Democrats and Republicans that he is a prisoner of the "special interest groups" which have endorsed his candidature, means he is likely to enter the race with Mr. Reagan at a distinct disadvantage.

India weathers storm in teacup

At the first tea auctions in London since the holiday break prices soared in response to the Indian Government's Christmas ban on exporting certain types of tea, as reported in The Times yesterday. MICHAEL HAMLYN, our South Asia correspondent, explains the background to the Indian decision.

In India tea is drunk strong, with lots of milk (often condensed) and sweet. In any office, no matter how grand or lowly, tea is served to visitors as a matter of course.

Tea stands grow like weeds at the corners of streets - unlicensed, illegal, scruffy, but dispensing the cup that cheers, refreshes, warms at this time of year, but does not inebriate.

Tea consumption in India is increasing like the population, uncontrollably.

The price, too, has been going up even though the cost of the leaf itself in a cracked pottery cup or throwaway clay bowl of tea is the least expensive item there, apart from the hot water. In a cup of tea that will cost you 50 paise (3/4p) the tea leaves represent only seven paise.

In recent years, however, the profitability of the tea gardens has been reduced; costs of inputs were rising by three points for every two-point increase in the sale price. The result is that investment in restocking fertilizer and machinery has dropped.

"Two years ago nearly all the gardens except the very good ones were selling teas at a loss", said a ministry spokesman.

Tea plants have a 10-12 year cycle, after which they have to be cut back to the roots to allow regeneration. The harvest after the cut-back is of course, much reduced.

Some gardens, therefore, have put off doing the work, and as a result productivity has fallen badly. Five big gardens in the Darjeeling area are now officially described as "sick".

Government efforts to stimulate the gardens into greater productivity have had only limited success so far. But the Ministry of Commerce forecast yesterday that this year's crop would be 5 per cent bigger than last year's.

The Indian Government was thrown into confusion towards the end of last year when it began to think that the supply of tea for the domestic market



Tamil tea-pickers in Sri Lanka, where

was going to run out. The tea that is drunk all over India is CTC tea (cut, torn and curled), which is what is largely drunk in Britain.

Supplies of tea from Sri Lanka were affected by the summer troubles there, and a number of people who did not usually buy India's CTC tea appeared in the market.

One of them was Russia, which is India's biggest customer for tea, taking 70,000 tons a year. For the first time it started buying CTC tea, taking 10,000 tons of it. Iraq, which used to buy a quarter of its tea from India and three-quarters from Sri Lanka, reversed the proportions last year.

The feeling was that the new customers had been tempted to

make the switch in the price which went to the end of the Some grades rupees, or cent more previous year.

The CTC climb, "but of the decided to act", said the Ministry of looks after.

"There would not be for the Government of CTC tea The Gov-

that hoarders were keeping the tea off the market in order to keep the price high. As far as this country is concerned, the action has had the desired result. At the tea auction on December 26 in Calcutta prices fell by 25 to 30 per cent. The ban is likely to stay in force until harvesting of the new crop starts in April.

Tea industry experts point out that there is a cycle in the way tea prices behave. Every eight years there is a price spasm, and after it the price settles at a higher level. It stays roughly the same in the intervening years.

The last spasm was in 1976, when the price rose from an average £1.15 a kg at the London auction in January to £2.70 in March. By December it has fallen again to £1.18.

Backlash over fire deaths in Berlin

From Michael Binyon
Bonn

The political repercussions of the suffocation on New Year's Eve of six foreign deportees, who started a fire in their detention cell in West Berlin, are growing and have led to demonstrations and calls for the resignation of the Interior Senator in the city Government.

A parliamentary inquiry has begun in Berlin, and police have started an investigation into the wardens at the deportation centre, on suspicion of manslaughter. Herr Heinrich Lummer, the Interior Senator, has spoken of "human failure" and asked whether everything had been done to stop the blaze.

The fire in the Lichtenfelde deportation centre was apparently caused by detainees who set fire to their mattresses in protest at the conditions under which they were held. The six men who died from poisonous fumes - three Sri Lankans, a Lebanese, a Palestinian and a Tunisian - were awaiting deportation as illegal immigrants or after conviction for drug offences.

Police have questioned other prisoners in the centre. One man who left the cell not long before the fire said the wardens, fearing a breakout after the fire had got under way, locked the cell door which the prisoners had barricaded with chairs and mattresses. Only later was the fire brigade called by which time the door could not be opened because of the heat.

The incident is politically embarrassing to the Christian Democratic Government, already on the defensive and fearing a loss of popularity after the departure this summer of Dr Richard von Weizsäcker, the ruling mayor. The Social Democratic opposition has indirectly called for Herr Lummer's resignation.

The fire has also drawn attention to the large number of illegal immigrants - many involved in drug smuggling - who slip into West Berlin from East Berlin without border checks. Greens in the city parliament said the deplorable conditions in the deportation centre were responsible for the tragedy.

Herr Lummer admitted conditions in the centre were unsatisfactory. The police union has several times complained about the intolerable burden placed on wardens by the overcrowding.

The question of asylum and deportation is a touchy one in West Germany at present, especially in Berlin where a Turkish refugee provoked a storm of controversy last year by leaping to his death from the court where his application was being heard. Several hundred people took part in a demonstration in Berlin on Monday against the city's deportation practices.

Dutch plea to Indonesia on police killings

Jakarta (Reuters) - Mr Hans van den Broek, the Dutch Foreign Minister, told Mr Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, the Indonesian Foreign Minister, yesterday he hoped death squad attacks on suspected criminals in the former Dutch colony would stop soon.

Mr van den Broek, on an eight-day visit, told reporters after meeting Mr Mochtar that the attacks had taken place. "I expressed the hope that... an end can be put to this situation," he said.

Indonesian human rights groups have said the attacks are part of a military police drive against crime that has claimed 4,000 lives. The Netherlands is one of six Western countries that have expressed concern to Indonesia about the killings.

Mr van den Broek said Mr Mochtar had told him the killings were not part of government policy and were incompatible with the constitution.

The killings were carried out against a background of a soaring crime rate which should be taken into account, the Dutch Minister said.

Arab faces Algarve murder trial

From Martha de la Cal
Lisbon

Jury selection began in the Algarve town of Albufeira yesterday in the trial of Yusef Al-Awad, aged 26, the Arab who is accused of killing Issam Sartawi, the Palestine Liberation Organisation representative at the Socialist International Congress in Albufeira on April 10 last year.

Mr Sartawi, who was 47 and US-trained heart surgeon, was a PLO moderate who favoured negotiations with Israel. He was a close personal adviser to Mr Yasser Arafat, and was considered an authority on European affairs. He had already been the target of more than 20 death threats from Palestinian radicals.

He was attending the congress as a special guest of Herr Willy Brandt, the former German Chancellor. The invitation was delivered through Dr Mario Soares, the Portuguese Prime Minister, when he was in Beirut, for talks with Mr Arafat. Both the Israeli Socialist delegations at the Albufeira congress raised objections to Mr Sartawi's presence. He had been



Facing trial: Yusef Al-Awad arrives at the court

circulating a petition to be allowed to address the congress. The killing was claimed by the headline radical left Palestinian group led by Mr Abu Nidal.

Building trouble for Spanish TV chief

From Harry Debelius
Madrid

Director General of Spanish Radio and Television (RTVE), Señor Jose Maria Calvino, is involved in a storm over the purchase of a 300 million peseta (£1.3m) building in Madrid, against the advice of various official bodies.

Spain's official state auditing body, the Tribunal de Accounts, is to investigate the purchase by the state television monopoly, according to reports published here.

Senor Calvino personally rejected the advice and insisted on buying the building.

The Council of State, the Directorate General of the National Patrimony, and other bodies agreed with a recommendation by the RTVE advisory board against buying the property, which is allegedly ill-suited to the needs of television, and is the subject of litigation.

In its 1980 recommendation the Council of State said "there are sufficiently grave reasons for passing up this offer, because what is required is a building, not a court case. It was built in serious violation of the zoning regulations which apply to the area."

Opponents of the purchase say that the proximity of the building to a powerful broadcasting antenna of a Madrid radio station, Radio Espana, would create undesirable interference in electronic equipment.

Pretoria set to reject truce offer

From Our Correspondent
Johannesburg

South Africa is studying Angolan proposals for a ceasefire in the Namibian war, but the conditions set seem certain to be rejected by Pretoria.

President Eduardo Dos Santos, in an open letter to Señor Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, said Angola was ready to implement a 30-day truce from January 31, but demanded that South Africa pledge "without extraneous considerations" to initiate, within a further 15 days, the seven-month process leading to UN-supervised elections in Namibia.

This is a reference to Pretoria's "linkage" of the UN settlement plan to the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola.

South Africans have been fighting for nearly a month in southern Angola in what is a limited offensive aimed at thwarting guerrillas of the South West Africa People's Organization (Swapo).

Pretoria has lost 14 men and claims to have killed 56 guerrillas and probably hundreds more in air strikes and artillery bombardments. General Constand Viljoen, the chief of the Defence Force, has said that his troops have clashed with Angolan and Cuban forces for the first time since 1981.

In his letter to the UN Secretary-General, President Dos Santos said South African and Angolan troops were engaged in "violent combat" more than 125 miles north of the Namibian border.

Labour congress election

South Africa's coloured Labour Party yesterday called for an election for members of the separate Coloured parliament, without a preliminary referendum to test overall Coloured support for the new dispensation.

The decision by the party, the biggest and most significant political forum for the country's 7 million mixed-race Coloureds, is exactly what the Government wanted.

Last year Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, rejected a demand by the Rev Alan Hendrickse, the Labour Party leader, that Coloureds and Indians should vote in a

Soviet children to get extra year's schooling

Moscow (Reuters) - The Soviet Communist Party unveiled a major plan yesterday to reform the education system and improve teaching at the nation's 142,000 primary and secondary schools.

Listed across the front pages of all main Soviet papers, the changes include an extra year's schooling, greater emphasis on work experience and a modernized teacher training programme.

Last June, President Andropov criticized the school system and the planned changes, some of which are already being introduced, clearly respond to his call for "a fundamental school reform".

Coloured parties Botha

From Ray K...
Johannesburg

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Says it is sorry for

From Ray K...
Johannesburg

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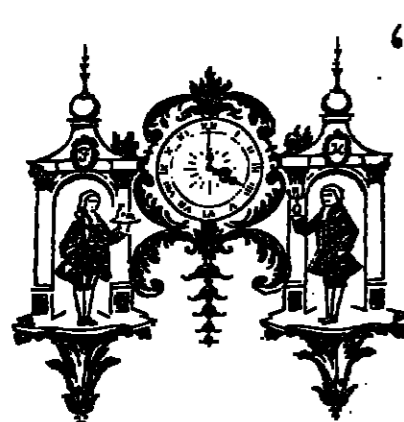
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Mr R. F. Botha: "Deep regret and disappointment"

a traffic police roadblock near Louis Trichardt in the northern Transvaal on December 29



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Mirroring the Abbey habit

The Times Profile
Clive Thornton

A former newspaper editor-turned-media-wheeler-dealer recently convened a dinner party at the Garrick Club to mull over weighty questions of press ownership.

Clive Thornton, no clubman himself, accepted, by virtue of his position as chairman-designate of Mirror Group Newspapers, an invitation to attend. "I was looking forward to listening to the diners" (who included editors Donald Trefford of *The Observer*, Mike Molloy of the *Daily Mirror*, and pundits Des Wilson and Peregrine Worsthorne), he said. The occasion however, turned out to be acerbic and Thornton added ruefully: "They came at me from all sides".

Was he a Cecil King, a man big enough for the great position of power and privilege he was taking? Thornton mused. He could not possibly make a success of the job without the unions' cooperation, and that he would not get. Above all, what was he going to do with Britain's only Labour-supporting popular daily?

His answer is altogether too bland, coming as it does from someone who has made a stock-in-trade of institutional upheaval. The real answer is that he is still assessing the business of newspapers, adjusting his own fully-fledged set of prejudices (the need, for example, for "a strong left-of-centre" viewpoint) to the political economy of the press.

His provenance gives some clues that may be counted reassuring. For there is a certain affinity between the great national institution Mr Thornton has just left and the one of which he took command on January 1. The Abbey National Building Society and the Mirror Group are bastions of capitalism with a popular, even collectivist edge. They are mass movements: seven million savers, 10 million readers. More than money-making machines (something the Mirror has less obviously been in recent years) both institutions embody some hazy but warm, social vision.

At its best the Mirror conveys a sense of social solidarity, its voice one of popular uplift. Clive Thornton talks of the building societies being built, over generations by the "artisan class". Their virtues are those of thrift, mutuality based on the wish of ordinary people to gain, through house-purchase, some security in a changing world.

That, of course, is to put a fine gloss on Reed International's move to recruit the man from the Abbey to take over the seat formerly occupied by Cecil King and Hugh Cudlipp. Thornton was looking to move from Abbey National. Last summer the field of candidates for the Mirror job was unlikely to have been too large: who would be eager to grapple with the printers, the *Sun* and hiving-off with which the Mirror is beset?

Besides, getting carried away with the Abbey's social vision could result in both underestimating a highly successful organization man and in failing to recognize how far there has been a quite conscious process of building up the Thornton image: cartel

buster, provider of housing for the people and so on.

The image is certainly potent. In the inner councils of the big building societies the metaphor varies, but Mr Thornton's pressure on mortgage rates and go-it-alone tactics have earned him the descriptions "maverick", "rebel" and "public menace". The man from the Leeds two months ago accused him of doing "irreparable harm" to the building society movement.

The image is not wholly undeserved, but it obscures the fact that Thornton but a long time in financial and top after a long stint in financial and legal institutions; he began work in a solicitor's office in 1943. It also conceals his appreciation that good personal publicity has also been good for the Abbey National: none of the policies or promotions has been directed at any other target than furthering the building society's interests, and endeavouring to topple the Halifax from the number one spot.

"Someone recently said I had enjoyed more personal coverage than the whole of the building society movement put together. I realized that public attention was necessary to secure change and that if that meant attention being focused on me - I owed to be a fairly private person - then so be it."

After a career in legal work for banks and building societies, Thornton joined the Abbey National as chief solicitor in 1967. His appointment in 1978 as chief general manager-designate surprised many who underestimated the innovator spirit of the Abbey board. He was after all, a lawyer, and in this highly traditional business movement the "professional" classes were looked at with a material for the top of the tree. The board none the less recognized that he had a personal style and an agenda for action that would shake things up.

Michael Heseltine is
a kindred spirit

The Thornton imprint is firmly implanted on the Abbey National's involvement with building for private rental (getting legal sanction for that) brought him into contact with a kindred spirit, Michael Heseltine, and led to a fruitful if brief partnership in the wake of the 1981 riots: also on the final abandonment of "red-lining", not very attractive areas of house-purchase. He persuaded the building societies to reveal the contents of surveys' reports to prospective house-buyers and thus provide a safeguard against unscrupulous estate agents and solicitors.

The authorship of "Granny bonds" savings schemes at rates linked with the rate of inflation, the Abbey's interest-bearing cheque account, and a series of plays to put the building societies in full competition with the other financial institutions for attracting investment, are all attributed to Thornton.

Throughout his career with the Abbey, the press was peppered with his pungent "quotes" on such topics as the



Clive Thornton: there has been a conscious process of building up the image. Photograph by Nobby Clark

virtues of competition, and the inner cities. Perhaps more importantly, substantial work of internal reorganization was being effected at the Abbey's headquarters.

After five years in the top post there Clive Thornton says (with a turn of phrase to delight a *Daily Mirror* sub-editor) that his newspaper obituary "would last as long as it takes to wrap the fish". That is perhaps true in the sense that he has become a popular symbol of the building societies' adaptation to a new age: as they decline in numbers and become multi-dimensional financial bodies instead of mere facilitators of house-purchase, his role as catalyst and prophet may in fact come to be seen as transient. But in another sense his self-deprecatory assessment represents false modesty. House-purchase in Britain is vital to people's well-being: Clive Thornton deserves a place in the history books for the part he has played in extending home-ownership by removing anomalies and inequities that hindered it.

He half-recognizes this. "As I was leaving the office recently, a man approached me on the pavement. We had helped in developing a housing estate on a rubbish tip in Bermondsey. He said: 'You've given me my first decent home'. That is the sort of person I've tried to help: if we've made people's lot a bit better in inner city areas, that's gratifying."

Talk of obituaries is a bit premature. Clive Thornton is 54, has a five-year contract with Mirror Group Newspapers and, by his own estimation, is "not a person who could take it lightly".

What then are his chances of success in an ailing industry? First, there is a keen perception of the task: it is more than just chairing a newspaper group, a task he says that would be "less interesting". "At the Mirror", he says, referring to the impending flotation of the group as a commercial entity wholly separate from Reed's and IPC, "the question is whether we can preserve the integrity and standing of the papers in the face of determined speculators who see an attractive balance sheet that could be stripped down. That is our prime task."

The future of the *Daily Mirror* as a left-of-centre newspaper matters to him: the loss of a right-of-centre title would be of much less concern to him.

A mission to arrest
national decline

Much has been made of Clive Thornton's humble origins on Tyneside, where he left school at 14, fashioned a career and gained an education by his own efforts, unaided by inheritance of money or advantage: also of the strong will that enabled him to do this despite the handicap of losing a leg in a childhood accident. His background explains his feel for popular aspiration and a keen sense of the unfairness of unemployment and homelessness. It is a background, he jokes, that might have been a disadvantage, but that now, in the *Mirror* job, has become an advantage.

Proud though he is of Walker-on-

Tyne - a shipbuilding community on the bank opposite Jarrow - he is no "professional" northerner. Years of metropolitan experience may not have rubbed out his Tyneside glottal stops, but he is fully at ease in talking of his farm, his prize livestock; he patently enjoys the trappings of corporate success.

A further reason for tackling the *Mirror* job with relish is a sense of personal mission in helping to arrest national decline. That may sound pompous - which Clive Thornton is not. What he says is that in all the areas that control the private wealth of Britain there is a great lack of flair, imagination: a sense of adventure and managerial risk-taking are squeezed out of executives on their way up. Trade unions have been allowed to abuse their power precisely because management has been content to jog along, not to rock the boat, to appease...

At the Garrick Club dinner, Thornton told his questioners that he intended to make the *Mirror* work, to turn it into a going concern. This was not enough for pundits who demanded to know what the political pay-off was, how the *Mirror*'s profile was going to change. After the dinner, Clive Thornton wrote a generous letter to the rudest of his fellow guests saying he had found the criticism stimulating. He would like to meet again in a few months when the evidence of a changed - or unchanged - *Daily Mirror* would be at hand. We must watch the tabloid space.

David Walker

More haste, less safety

With the advent of modern construction techniques, much old, painfully acquired wisdom was forfeited. Consequently in this high-technology age, we are having to research to find statistical data to rediscover theories the masons and builders of former times seem to have known intuitively. To our high-powered chagrin, we discover that even the most advanced of technologies has still failed to tame climate and weather.

For example, many buildings in England are rendered, or harled, in Scotland, a process one associates most with country or seaside fishing village buildings, but which is now one of the cheaper ways of getting a building waterproofed. In the old days, building ceased during bad or winter weather. Nowadays, modern contracts and lawyers insist that building carries on throughout the year, except in exceptionally untemperate circumstances.

Research by the Cement and Concrete Association shows, however, that harling and rendering of brick or stone walls is inadvisable between November and March, as the covering may be rejected because of climatic conditions.

Government grant cutbacks may compel architects and builders to undertake building works in these dangerous periods. Some local authorities, like Edinburgh, are only processing grants on the basis that there is an undertaking to finish the entire project by the end of the financial year that is March 31.

Scottish roots

According to Philadelphia American, Robert Smith (1722-1777) was the first American architect. He is the undisputed author of a number of colonial-classical buildings in that region, the finest survivor of which is the Carpenter's Hall (1770). The Carpenter's company historian, architect Charles Peterson, has spent the last few years leading a study into Smith's origins for - apart from the fact that he arrived in America in 1749 with a boat load of Glaswegian Quakers - little was known of his background.

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research
Architecture



Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia

The research revealed that Smith was born in Dalketh in 1722. A plaque was unveiled last year in the church to celebrate the fact, and a book, half written in America, and half in Scotland, is planned. The Scottish end will be the remit of historian John Gifford, whose task is to describe the cultural background which he left at the age of 21. It was the time of James Gibbs (from Aberdeen), Colin Campbell, James Smith, and William Adam.

Dead wood

Remember the slogan "Plant a tree in '73"? Everybody had to hic out with acorns, dung and shovels to mitigate our crimes against the environment. Hundreds of thousands of trees were planted, but within four years about 70 per cent had perished. The reasons are still imperfectly understood: the disastrously dry summer of 1976, vandalism, and incompetent planting have accounted for a number.

Recent Forestry Commission research, investigating an estimated 36 per cent failure rate of tree planting related to motorway building, may have uncovered the major problem - the drying-out of roots before planting takes place. Laboratory and field tests further concluded that control of grass immediately adjacent

to trees was critical, and that the rates of growth could be doubled if the landscape and the built facilities were integrated in advance, with landscape architect, contractor, grower and maintenance workers carefully coordinated.

Since the country spends some £54m every year on trees and shrubs, the loss of £18m of this on dying trees is an important problem. Perhaps the message should now be: "Plant some more in '84".

Scots list

Documentation of British architectural history since the nineteenth century has been dominated by journals, most of them published from London, to the detriment of other regions. The effects of this bias have been revealed by a current study of Scottish architecture of the 1930s. The team is funded mainly by the MSC, with the backing of other bodies such as the Scottish Office and the National Trust for Scotland.

A study of the reference books and journals for significant details of Scots buildings of the period usually uncovers the same 20 buildings. Neil Baxter, the research leader at the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland (RIAS), reports that his team has so far logged and registered almost 5,000 projects, photographing 1,000 of them. Among them there is a core of interesting buildings which could number over 200, predominantly cinemas, houses,



Unchallenged: Max Fry's Sun House, Hampstead

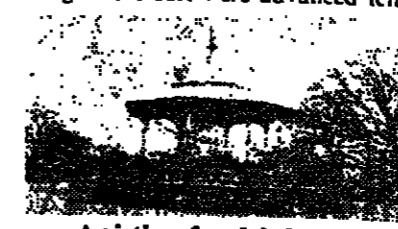
major hospitals and schools, with a smattering of road houses, factories, hotels and blocks of flats.

Green lungs

We all love our great Victorian parks but few of us visit them. The authorities are no longer prepared to pay for the upkeep they were designed for. Social patterns have changed, and a well-educated and travelled public is no longer interested in a few poorly caged macaws or decorative ducks on a decaying pond. The bandstand may not have been used for decades; the summer houses are rotting or closed; and people question whether they are still "safe".

There are three lines of research and experiment about the future of these parks. The first is the reintroduction of nature with "ecological parks" for biological education, or city farms, both of which could be run by local schools or the community.

The second questions whether these parks are, in fact, in the best locations. In London and Liverpool, MSC teams are aiding local communities to create smaller, more local parks on derelict land instead, which might put the future value of the larger parks in question. The third considers a wider system of "linked nature spaces". Proposals for something of the sort were advanced ten



A victim of social change years ago, linking the Embankment, Belgrave Square, Hyde Park, Regent's Park and up to Hampstead Heath.

Whatever the outcome, the cities need far more greenery if the increasing levels of carbon monoxide and other pollutants are to be curtailed.

Charles McKean

The correct date of the ending of the occupation of Qasr Ibrim (Findings, Jan 2) was 1817.

moreover...
Miles Kingston

Flogging the living word

"Writing about writers is probably the most exacting experience," says Alan Plater in the *Radio Times*. "For mostly all they do is sit and think."

Not if they've been through the Moreover School of Writing!

Sitting around thinking doesn't sell books. What sells books is going on chat shows, standing on your head and dressing in outrageous clothes.

Television sells books. Gossip sells books. Scandal sells books. Sensationalism in the *Sunday Times* sells books. Being a spy for the Russians sells books.

There's only one thing that doesn't sell books - and that's sitting and thinking!

At the Moreover School of Writing we teach writers to get off their bottoms - and get out and sell. Anyone can write a book, but it takes talent to flog it.

"Dear Moreover," writes a satisfied author from Penze, "thanks to your lessons I managed to get on *Start the Week* and *Stop the Week* in the same week, not only that but I was also rude to Kenneth Robinson and Robert Robinson. This was really good for sales, well, thanks again."

No points for grammar, but who cares about grammar? That man has got the right idea, thanks to his intensive fortnight at the Moreover Upward Bound School.

"Dear Moreover," writes George Orwell, "I just want to thank you for advising me to name my book after a specific year. As you predicted, 1984 has seen my sales rocketing. Of course, I realize 1985 is going to be a pretty duff year for me, but I'll have made my pile by then."

Not a genuine letter, of course, because Orwell has been dead for many years, but as anyone who has attended our Forgery Seminar will tell you, people will buy forgeries by the thousand if it is properly presented.

"Dear Moreover," writes Bernard Levin, "one of the greatest pleasures in life is going on Frank Deblaney's TV programme with Edward Heath and learning something about book-selling from one of the greatest experts in the field. As Edward and I sank our teeth afterwards into the succulent ciling-film sandwiches provided by the BBC, he told me that he had started attending your classes 40 years ago. You had advised him to become prime minister before he even started thinking of selling books. Wonderful advice!"

Another fake letter, of course, but that's the name of the game. Edward Heath did come to us 40 years ago, but we advised him that even if he became prime minister we couldn't see him selling any books. One of our little mistakes! At about the same time we advised Evelyn Waugh that he would never sell *Brideshead Revisited* if he didn't get the TV rights sewn up. How right we were.

Last year we instituted a new course, "Be a Famous Person and Flog Your Holiday Snaps", and already such diverse personalities as Prince Andrew, Noddy and Jenny Agutter have soared to fame and fortune after a two-week course at our outpost at Passport Photos of Kilburn, tutors Denis Healey and Lord Burbury. This year we intend to offer the same for water colour painting and hope very much to get Sir Hugh Casson as our resident painter.

Meanwhile, if you have already written a book and just don't seem able to get on the media, don't despair! Above all, don't sit around and think. Just fill in this little coupon and send it off to us, enclosing a cheque for £500.

I have recently published a book, but I have never seen it in a bookshop! I cannot get Melvyn Bragg to ring me back! Paul Theroux had already done the same sort of book.

If I go on a chat show, I can do a bit of tap dancing/juggling/ instant drawing/Neil Kinnock imitation/ragtime piano.

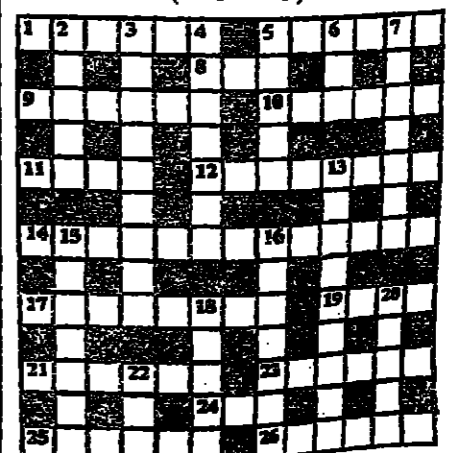
I would be prepared in desperation to go on breakfast TV/be nice to Russell Harty/take off articles of clothing/appear on the same programme as Shirley Conran.

My book was written by me/someone suggested by the publishers/the publishers/Hinter.

If all else failed, I would undertake to change my name/image/sex.

Signed.....

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 240)



- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Hindu retreat (6) | 2 Clearly defined (5) |
| 3 Exchange (6) | 3 Fine network (19) |
| 4 Northern diver (3) | 4 Wireless pioneer (7) |
| 5 Tease lightly (6) | 5 Glide over ice (5) |
| 6 Coat cake (5) | 6 Coat cake (5) |
| 7 Service (6) | 7 One-eyed giant (17) |
| 8 Organization (6) | 8 Ambidextrous (3,4) |
| 9 Gamble (4) | 9 Ambidextrous (7) |
| 10 Passed (8) | 10 Original (7) |
| 11 Pretreat (8,5) | 11 Staff (5) |
| 12 Pasta cheese (8) | 12 Large gill sail (5) |
| 13 Water plant (4) | 13 Unused (3) |
| 14 Verse (6) | |
| 15 Depression (6) | |
| 16 Goods vehicle (3) | |
| 17 Crop (6) | |
| 18 Attache (6) | |

SOLUTION TO No 239
ACROSS: 1 Repeat 4 Lay off 7 Vase 8 Innocent 9 Whiskers 12 Ed 15 Visual 16 Podium 17 Due 19 Shoot out 24 Espousal 25 Eich 26 Store
DOWN: 1 Rave 2 Post haste 3 Trick 4 Line 5 Yacc 6 Fence 10 Snaps 11 Scout 12 Etiquette 13 Lame 14 Avid 18 Upset 20 Hussy 21 Chick 22 Moor 23 Shut



Partners in a death-pact: Henriette Vogel and Heinrich von Kleist - the latter at the age of 23, in a miniature portrait by Peter Friedel

For one who is counted among the great German poets, Kleist is strangely little appreciated in Britain. Michael Ratcliffe welcomes the opportunity to know him better

Death presented as life's crowning glory

Kleist
A Biography
By Joachim Maass

Translated by Ralph Manheim
(Secker and Warburg, £12.95)

"Who would write," demanded Byron noisily, firing several blanks into his journal after a fitful day, "who had anything better to do? ... Look at the querulous and monotonous lives of the 'genius' - except Cervantes, Tasso, Dante, Ariosto, Kleist (who were brave and active citizens), Aeschylus, Sophocles and some other of the antiquaries also, what a worthless, idle brood it is!" Kleist is the surprise there, only two years after his death; but then to die was the one thing Kleist had thought of that was better than writing.

He accomplished it with perfect precision on a late November afternoon in the grounds of a pub overlooking the Kleist "Wannsee" between Potsdam and Berlin. The death-pact with the mortally ill Henriette Vogel, reported at length in *The Times*, deplored by Goethe as unnatural and by Wagner as inartistic, was admired not only by Byron but by all writers born since with one skin painfully too few, for whom Kafka spoke when he said that of such only Heinrich von Kleist (1777-1811) had truly transcended the poet's despair and "found the right solution." There is plenty of evidence in Byron's letters and journals to suggest that his own progress to Missolonghi was a wild hope that destiny would intervene to the same peaceful end. If he also hoped thereby for oblivion, he was being uncharitably naive, for the sacrificial hopelessness of his mis-

sion made certain that, even if nobody read a line of his poetry again, his immortality was sure. So it was with Kleist. For if Byron drifted indifferently towards death - keeping his options on this world, we may fancy, ever so slightly ajar - Kleist compelled and exulted in death's arrival, running before it, opening every door and flooding the way with joy and light. The exact spot, occasion and death-companion were all selected in advance; the savage depressions which disturbed so much of his short life fell away in the hours preceding the short journey to Wannsee, and the autopsy afterwards recorded that the grey matter of the brain was unusually firm for a man greeting death in this way.

Joachim Maass, in what appears to be the first full life translated into English, treats Kleist's death as the poet's final masterpiece, the crowning triumph, as it were, of his life. Kleist and Henriette skim stones across the water, dance like satyrs in and out of the fog as they finish their outdoor coffee and put away the rum. This doubtless damp and gentle Dionysiad is observed by the woman from the pub, who then leaves them. Almost immediately, Kleist fires both shots.

He had written eight stories of a dense, innovative and disconcerting simplicity (translated by David Luke and Nigel Reeves in *The Marquis of O and Other Stories*, Penguin, £2.25); and seven plays plus one fragment which together comprise what is regarded as German literature's most original dramatic oeuvre. It is these plays which, despite a recent *Prince of Homburg* at the National and a *Pemhesilea* in Battersea, we have yet to measure adequately to the

dimensions of our stage. It should not be impossible, but until it is done we shall not know the half of him.

Maass's *Kleist* - first published in 1977 and revised in 1981 - is a good start. The English edition dispenses with notes, attributions and (more irritating) bibliography, but Maass is a gifted all-rounder who combines man, life and work in a critical narrative and describes a handful of unfamiliar masterpieces with an empathy which will compel English readers to want to know them better. In his hands *Amphitryon* is witty and *Kathchen of Heilbronn* sublime. That is a far-from-common gift in literary biographers.

Kleist is perhaps the most Prussian of great German poets - not in the spurred and pickled helmeted sense by which the term "Prussian" is simplistically misunderstood today, but in his Junker's awareness of the individual's born duty to serve society and the state. This patriotic patriotism exploded into passionate Francophobia against Napoleon (but not against Rousseau, Molière and Montaigne, three mentors) during the invasion of Prussia in 1806, and confronted his own far from traditional restlessness with a violence that in the end destroyed him.

He was not an "autobiographical" writer, but the pursuit of justice and the defence of honour inform both his work and life. There is more than a touch of the chivalrous knight in this side of Kleist as a succession of high-waisted, neo-classical belles dames - Luise, Caroline, Wilhelmine, Marie, Ulrike, Madeli and Henriette - come to the fore and find the poet kneeling at their feet. Henriette was not the first to be



offered death, but she was the only one who said yes, so she got the part. Kleist's characters, like their creator, live dangerously. Lives are at stake in every line of *The Betrothal in Santo Domingo* and its equally brilliant companion, *The Earthquake in Chile*. When tensions snap like twigs in a Kleist story, they set off the booby-traps of malign chance and the wrong people start to die: other people's children, girlfriends, wives; people in the street who are not even named. "I only made the verses," he protested, when people complained that *Penthesilea* was too bloody. "Believe me, I took the world as it is." Every evening in 1884 the news will prove him right.

He has also become the honorary original outsider, the *Ur-Alternativ*, the folk-hero of

Goethephobes, sublime man-child destroyed by complacent old boys. But for Goethe's refusal to back Kleist's genius with his own prestige, the argument goes, Kleist's course might have been very different. It is an argument which does Kleist almost as great a disservice as Goethe, for one genius does not rise because another falls. True, they quarrelled over Goethe's well-meaning but amateurish production of *The Broken Jug*, but Kleist gave more than as good as he got in return, and in print, and the difference between the two men was far more fundamental even than those of age, embracing the very purpose of art and the nature of Nature itself. Goethe was the optimist of harmony and reconciliation; Kleist the realist for whom Reason alone was no longer

Doing justice to those who can no longer defend the

Impact Erebus
By Gordon Vette with John MacDonald

(Hodder & Stoughton, £9.95)

On November 28, 1979, in broad daylight, Air New Zealand flight TE901, on a sightseeing flight to the Antarctic, flew at a height of 1,500 feet straight into the lower slopes of a snow-covered volcano on Ross Island, Mount Erebus. All 237 passengers and 20 crew were killed: the worst disaster to strike New Zealand since the end of the Second World War.

The report of the chief inspector of air accidents quickly found its probable cause in the decision of the commander to continue the flight at low level towards an area of poor

surface and horizon definition, when the crew were uncertain of their precise position, and their subsequent inability to detect the steeply rising terrain which interrupted the DC10's flight-path. In other words, our old friend "pilot error" was responsible. And yet, passengers' photographs, taken downwards from the windows right up until impact and recovered from the wreck with their bodies, in appalling conditions, showed the aircraft to have been flying in glistening weather.

Such was the magnitude of the disaster and public disquiet that a New Zealand judge was appointed as a Royal Commission to inquire further. Mr Justice Mahon duly reported after taking evidence for six months. Very differently from the chief inspector, he found that none of the flight crew made any error which contributed to the disaster. *Impact*

Erebus describes parts of the campaign to save their reputations which was fought, and won, on highly technical ground. The Royal Commission found that the single effective cause of the accident was a management change in the latitudinal and longitudinal coordinates of the southernmost waypoint of the computerized flight plan taking the DC10 from a safe route, even at low altitude, over an area of ice-covered sea to a route directly over Mount Erebus. This change was not made known to the flight crew who loaded the DC10's computer with the revised flight plan not realizing that their flight, in what turned out for them to be misleading visibility, could be fatal. The fatal hazard was the optical phenomenon known as "whiteout". The existence and effects of polar whiteout were insufficiently known to anyone at Air New Zealand at the

time. Consequently, the crew were not briefed about it when preparing for their first Antarctic flight. When whiteout exists, by the interaction of sunlight, snow, cloud and reflection, it induces the belief in a pilot that he is flying over flat terrain with unlimited forward visibility, because it prevents change in the terrain level being perceived by him, even though the change may be as great as from sea level to a steep mountainside directly in the flight-path of his aircraft.

Had it not been for the persistence of Captain Vette and others in propounding the whiteout theory, and had it not been also for the methodical analysis by the judge of many related causal factors, the probable cause of the accident first determined by the chief inspector would not have been changed and the reputations of the flight crew restored. Eggshell, in the normal way, is not

more fragile than it seems. Because of airline, much as chief of departure proceeded England that day brilliant by the just strates, that air single of management investigation And that persistence be disintegrated memories seek it for

An autobiography and (right) a review, by the same author, of a milestone in classical

Destinies of life unfulfilled

The Flutes of Autumn
By Peter Levi

(Harvill, £7.95)

Peter Levi, so far, has been many things. He started off paradoxically as a Roman Catholic Jew, surrounded by oddities such as his brother's godmother, a French lady from Selfridge's who used to run out with a shovel to pick up horse manure for her garden. All this was in wartime Ruislip, then still a village hanging on to the

outer skirts of London: in Levi's own characteristically vivid words, it lay in "that scruffy umbrageous margin where the town was just beginning to dissolve the countryside in its dark acid". He became, in time, Jesuit priest, classicist, schoolmaster, scoutmaster, poet, prison chaplain, archaeological correspondent for *The Times*, don and paterfamilias.

The flutes of autumn, heard by the Austrian poet Trakl after the battle of Gorde in 1914, sounded a requiem for all the might-have-beens who perished there. This book, a fusion of autobiography and philosophical

reflection on British history, similarly sounds a sad note for unfulfilled destinies. It records "the growth of a boy's consciousness of places in Britain, of landscapes and countryside, and the petrified, dead conflict that they embody". From suburban Ruislip, whose "cinemas were emotional brothels", he went to Prior Park to be educated "in some raw sense of the word", by the Irish Christian Brothers. In a nice piece of polemic, he concludes, in agreement with Joyce, that "Irish Catholicism adds an extra twist of the knife" to boarding school life. Yet it was the landscape of Prior Park which proved important: it educated him "as the Brothers could not have done". The school cultivated in him a self-confessed snobbery about the countryside, which tempered, he remained. His final school years were spent at Beaumont, by Windsor Park, after which he joined the Jesuits at Roehampton who sent him, on long walks "with a few coppers of no money at all" he explored "every square inch of Westminster Abbey", an achievement which, sadly, the worldly commercialism of today's Abbey, "the greatest monument of Early English Christianity", does not allow.

Successively he moved on to Heythrop, Oxford, Stonyhurst, constantly aware of that record of tyranny embedded in the countryside around him and at the same time enchanted by the beauties of nature. He revises the barbarities of our ancestors, entertaining no high opinion of the English: their history is full of the murders of both peoples and cultures. The Romans, he sustain his most



Levi: humanity

passionate cause: "Alas, there was nowhere in England left unpenetrated by the Romans or unravaged afterwards". They were the agents of slavery, "the most degraded and miserable condition known to man". "By 1974", he tells us, "as a priest, I was falling to pieces". We suspect this: he had become a left-over from the world of Waugh. The Jesuit priest had been beagling at Oxford, and had found nothing more acceptable to drink at as vast and dignified hotel than champagne ("we were lucky in the vintage"). Finally the translator of Pausanias parted from the Order and married. His life has been transformed: "Private life with someone you love is the greatest of human pleasures". This unusual autobiography is intense and intimate. It charts the development of his huge capacity for loving both people and places, and will please equally those who know his poetry and those who do not. He has in abundance what Jesuit houses have lacked, "common humanity". Some poets do not write elegant, well-turned prose: this one does. There are none of Trakl's muttered underones here: the flutes will clearly their beautiful lament.

Brian Martin

Wondrous p

Supplementum Hellenisticum
By Hugh Lloyd-Jones and Peter Parsons

(Walt de Gruyter, Berlin and New York, £100)

Not long ago it was thought unscholarly and disreputable and even somewhat affected to read the classics for pleasure. Just as you had to suffer to be beautiful, you had to sweat over books, and *Daphnis and Chloe* was not on the syllabus. It was then a relief and a surprise to find that language set you free to roam as you chose among vast, uncharted territories. The later the Greek was, the less severe, the subtler and more pleasurable it seemed to be: that is how one felt. Even the minor Hellenistic writers we know only from their fragments are as fresh and gleaming as a basket of unfamiliar fish.

For longer than my lifetime every refuge from the centre of the subject has had to use an inadequate collection called *Collectanea Alexandrina*, which left out as much as it collected. More and more pieces of papyrus have accumulated since then, a yellowing snowdrift of ancient poetry. Now at last, in what is sometimes thought of as the sunset or the twilight of classical studies, this whole invaluable detritus has been combed through and sorted and assembled. The fat single volume of *Supplementum Hellenisticum* contains the whole corpus of uncollected Hellenistic poetry, and an index to it all. It is an astonishing and monumental book. It proves, if proof were needed, that classical

Analysis of intuition

Musician sublime

Beethoven and the Voice of God
By Wilfred Mellers

(Faber, £20)

Beethoven is universally understood, which is why he is so difficult to understand. In most of his major works - the symphonies, quartets, concertos and sonatas - there are no words to help us. So what is he saying? Professor Mellers has the answer. Beethoven's music is a search for the "Hidden Song", a search conducted even in the earliest piano sonatas but becoming most intensive and fulfilled in the last years. The purpose of this book is to travel in pursuit, and to find, particularly in the last movement of the last sonata and the *Missa solennis*, Beethoven hearing the Voice of God.

This is not as fanciful as it might sound. We have plenty of evidence that Beethoven regarded composition as a spiritual exercise, above all during his last decade, which is the period with which Mellers is most concerned: fully three-quarters of his book is devoted to the late piano works and the great *Missa*. Certainly Beethoven felt himself to be in communion with God. Our difficulty lies in knowing what he meant by God, and whether he was right.

Mellers's God is easier to place, since we have heard quite a bit of him during the last twenty years or so. His prophets are Blake and Martin Buber; he worries Kierkegaard and exalts Virginia Woolf; he teases Eliot and shines on Yeats; he discloses himself in early Christian esoterica, in Rosicrucianism and in the works of a

variety of modern illuminati. No wonder Beethoven hears him as well.

The range of reference might seem to be justified by Mellers's contention that all mystical writers, whether in words or music, are talking about the same experiences: the sense of time stopping, the feeling of contact with the holy, the yearning for paradise, which cannot be attained because it lies in the past of idealized childhood. But if this is so, if all these paths to the divine are parallel, then they cannot meet. One cannot, for example, explain very much about the Credo from the *Missa solennis* in terms of Greek and Egyptian resurrection myths, tree symbolism and tarot cards.

Happily these are only Mellers's spices. As in the companion volume *Beethoven and the Dance of God* (1980), a great bulk of the text is concerned with musical analysis, of a traditional kind, carried out with zest, thoroughness and very plausible intuition. What Mellers has to say about, for example, the *A major Piano Sonata*, Op. 101, the *Diabelli Variations* and the puzzling *Bagatelles* will refresh anyone's response to these works, and there are potent remarks too thrown out about a whole range of pieces not subjected to detailed examination: *Fidelio*, the Seventh Symphony, the later quartets. If his theological extravagances can be overlooked - and they fail all too noticeably to interlock with the main matter - then Mellers can open us at least to the Voice of Beethoven.

Paul Griffiths

Operative answers

SOE
Special Operations Executive in the Far East

By Charles Cruickshank

(Oxford, £12.95)

Field Marshal Lord Slim was a cool, clear-sighted commander. The fact that in the autumn of 1944 he recommended that the British SOE should be replaced in the area of his 14th Army by its American equivalent, OSS, raises very serious questions many of which are now answered by Mr Cruickshank's cool, clear-sighted history. It is sad that at the end, weighing the question of SOE's achievement in this vast theatre, one is reminded of H. G. Wells's wounding assessment of the product of Henry James's novels: "a dead kitten and a piece of string".

Evidently, as might be expected, the fault did not lie with the men in the field. Mr Cruickshank's narrative discloses that courage and endurance were not the monopoly of our agents in Europe. But they lacked proper guidance. There are times, as one reads this tale of contradiction and confusion, when one feels that the authorities in London were as ignorant of conditions in the Far East as was their Prime Minister. Neither political nor military overlord came out of this story well.

It is a mistake not to be very clear, at the top, about the limiting factors which will affect a delicate clandestine organization like SOE. It was pressed, on all sides, to undertake sabotage, though this had never been its primary mission when the Executive was created. But sabotage was incredibly difficult in the Far East, so much so that the whole war produced only a few major instances. The most notable, moreover, was mounted from outside the theatre - the case of Colonel Lyon, who sailed a small craft from

Australia to Singapore, blew up Japanese shipping and sailed all the way back again, only, alas, to be captured and executed on his next expedition.

A general problem, affecting other activities besides sabotage, was the lack of a "sea to swim in", that support from local inhabitants without which the clandestine withers, and which, in the west, made France, Greece, Yugoslavia and Poland fruitful areas, but not Germany. Mr Cruickshank's analysis, country by country, shows that the British Empire left a sullen, hostile residue in Burma (though not among the hill tribes); that in Sumatra the natives were simply hostile; that French Indo-China was controlled by politics; and that in Malaya one stepped through a minefield.

When Churchill, in 1940, briefed the infant SOE to "set Europe ablaze" he did not have in mind such coups as that of Walter Fletcher, who towards the end of the war refreshed the Allies' treasury by some £77 million through working the Chinese black market and similar prestidigitations. He had in mind, for example, what Fletcher's colleagues proved well able to do - raise, arm and train guerrilla groups behind the enemy lines. Yet there was constant pressure to transfer guerrillas to the army and concentrate SOE on intelligence-gathering.

When the Japanese collapse set in, SOE, having survived a rough passage, was organized in sufficient strength to be able to strike with effect against the retreating enemy as 14th Army advanced from Mandalay to Rangoon. With typical honesty Slim, having sought to eject SOE, paid tribute to this effort. But Mr Cruickshank has been frank: taking the war as a whole, he believes that, better handled, SOE would have made a far more significant contribution. The verdict stands.

Ronald Lewin

ARIEL BOOKS

ORWELL

Remembered



Audrey Coppard and Bernard Crick, George Orwell's biographer, have compiled this selection of personal reminiscences from Orwell's friends and acquaintances. With contributions from those who knew him at prep school and at Eton, in Paris and in London, and those who fought alongside him in the Spanish Civil War, they reveal the complexities and contradictions of Orwell's personality and ideas.

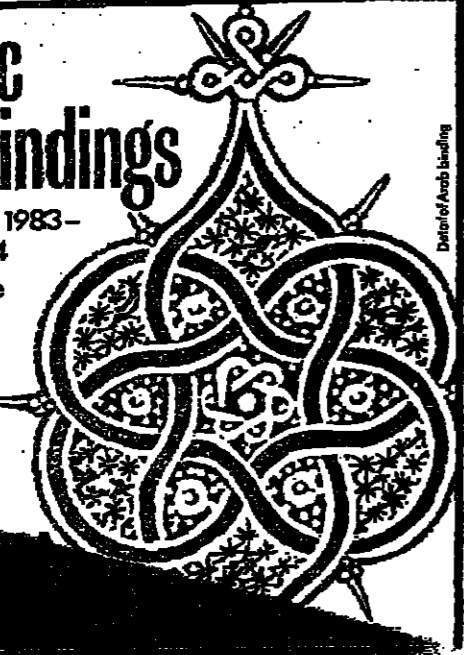
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THE TIMES DIARY

Forcing the pace

The campaign for electoral reform may become more lively if the Fawcett Society decides to join the rather sleepy organizations now making the case for proportional representation. The society is a direct descendant of the National Union for Women's Suffrage which earlier in the century used dramatic techniques to draw attention to its cause. More recently the Fawcett Society helped to draft the Equal Pay and Sex Discrimination Acts, and its chief interest in electoral reform is that it may allow more women to achieve office. Whether the society joins the reformers or not will depend on the outcome of a committee meeting in two weeks' time.

Snoopy, bach

Snoopy, scourge of the Red Baron, has just acquired the ability to speak Welsh. The decision by Cardiff publisher Gwasg y Dref Wen to translate two of the books into the old tongue means that Snoopy can now bark in 23 languages, including Serbo-Croat, Chinese and Latin. In Welsh *That's how it goes, Snoopy*, has become *Fel na mae, Snoopi*, and *The Ferocity of Snoopy* is now *Ffyrddwdd Snoopi*. The Welshmen maintain it is only natural justice, for according to them America was discovered by Prince Madoc decades before Christopher Columbus was born.

© The Hotel Norwich, in Norwich, has put aside a wing for guests who snore. Strong snorers earn discounts and anyone with the so-called "Krankato rating" pays half price.

In the pink

The sumptuous treatment on Channel 4 of her best selling *The Far Pavilions* will not give M. M. Kaye quite the same thrill as her first sight of a cake made to celebrate the book's publication. The cake was made in Jaipur at a party for those embarked on a *Far Pavilions* tour which formed part of the launching jumble. The cook had fashioned a replica of the book's cover. "Unfortunately," said Miss Kaye, "he had managed to get hold of the American paperback version published by Bantam. This bore the legend, 'Special introductory price: 95 cents,' and guessing that the word 'special' was very relevant to the book, he had picked out the entire slogan in raised pink icing. I took it as a great compliment, which was what was intended."

BARRY FANTONI



"What shall we celebrate with, dear - champagne or a pot of tea?"

OK, Guv?

The appointment of Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam as Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of Mauritius entailed less manoeuvring than went on over the appointment of Sir Len Williams to the same post after Mauritius became independent in 1967. Sir John Rennie, the island's governor, had hoped to be appointed after the first post-independence general election was held. But before the election the British Labour government sent out John Stonehouse who decided that constituency boundaries needed changing. When they were, the Mauritius Labour Party won the election. Its choice for Governor-General was Len Williams, general secretary of the British Labour Party. For some reason, the Prime Minister, Harold Wilson, hesitated in making the appointment. While it was still awaiting his signature, the political journalist Walter Terry broke the story. Len Williams threatened to call a press conference to explain the delay and was immediately appointed before he could make good his threat.

Slicing the pie

Robert Carrier has just sliced a quarter of a million pounds off the asking price of his Suffolk mansion, Hintonhall Hall, which in 11 years he changed from a dilapidated ruin into a magnificent restaurant, costing school and home, from £750,000 to £500,000. Hampton, the agent, says it is confident of an early sale.

End game

As the final of the world chess championship draws near, Bobby Fischer, the American who won in Iceland 12 years ago, continues to live in cheap hotels in Pasadena, California, under assumed names. He turns down million-dollar offers to play matches and survives mainly on royalty cheques from the chess books he has written. Friends say that Fischer believes he may be under Soviet surveillance and is a possible target for a KGB assassination attempt.

Falklands: a half-measure solution

by Sir Philip Goodhart

"Today brings new hope to your country," said Mrs Thatcher in a message of goodwill to Raúl Alfonsín, when he assumed the presidency of Argentina. "Where there's a will, there's a way," replied the new president. But the problem of the sovereignty of the Falklands remains.

There can be no doubt of President Alfonsín's personal commitment to sovereignty. During General Galtieri's invasion of the Falkland Islands, Raúl Alfonsín described the operation as "an illegitimate act, by an illegal government in a just cause." On the day that he took office, President Alfonsín declared: "Our undeniable object is, and will always be, the regaining of the right of our nation to its sovereign territory." Meanwhile, our Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary have made it plain, in public and in private, that the sovereignty of the Falklands is not negotiable.

One of the guests at President Alfonsín's inauguration was President Belaunde Terry of Peru. The Peruvians have shown some interest in the concept of a partitioned sovereignty for the Falklands. They have noted that inhabitants of the Falklands are largely concentrated in the East Falklands, while the West Falklands and the adjoining islets are almost entirely uninhabited. Partition would involve the abandonment

of the Argentine claim to sovereignty over the East Falklands, while we would accept Argentine claims to sovereignty over the West Falklands.

The basis for this suggestion of a partitioned sovereignty is simple enough. No British government could lightly abandon the Falkland Islanders, and no Argentine government can drop its national claim to the islands. Both countries have invested too much emotional capital in the islands to give any credibility to legal haggling over old claims and counterclaims.

Clearly, the arrival of Argentine forces to occupy the West Falklands would add to the problems and the dangers in the South Atlantic, but in an interview that he gave to *The Observer*, President Alfonsín revived the idea of a leaseback, and any recognition of Argentine sovereignty over the West Falklands would have to be accompanied by a leaseback arrangement for a transition period. At some time during that transition period, the Argentine flag could be flown in the West Falklands, or West Malvinas, and a handful of Argentine administrators could be added to the very small staff needed to oversee the empty island.

In order to ensure that some future Argentine government did not use a partition agreement as a springboard for renewed claims to the rest of the Falklands,

the British government could ask President Alfonsín's administration to put any agreement to the Argentine people in a referendum, in order to show that it was acceptable to the majority and not just to one set of ministers. In France, in 1961 and 1962, two referendums effectively removed the Algerian issue from French politics, and an Argentine referendum on the Falklands might have a similar stabilizing impact.

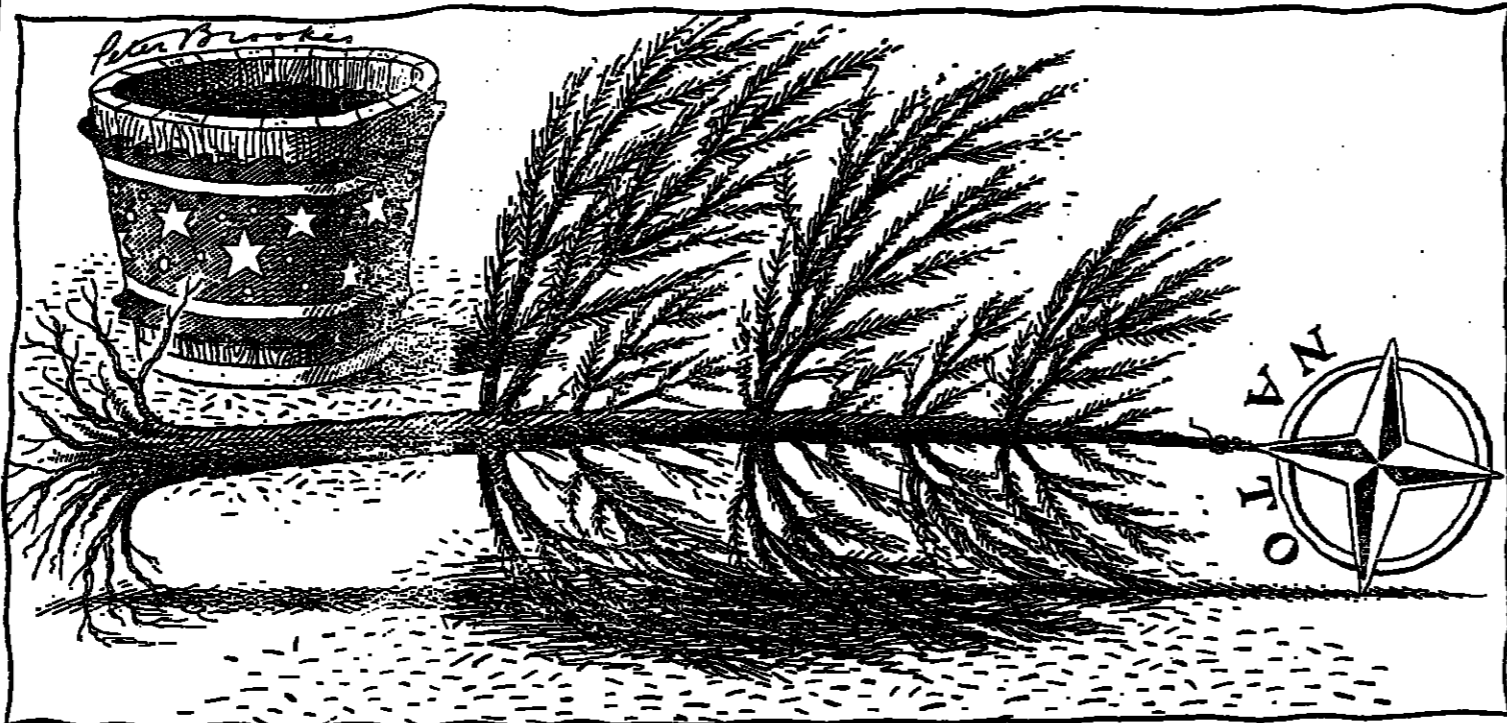
The division of sovereignty, combined with temporary leaseback of the western half of the islands, could then provide a platform for negotiations about fishing rights and mineral rights under the sea - matters that can properly be settled by negotiation, while the issue of sovereignty cannot.

Under the heading "Moral of the Work", Winston Churchill wrote at the beginning of his *History of the Second World War*: "In war: Resolution. In Defeat: Defiance. In Victory: Magnanimity. In Peace: Goodwill." President Alfonsín's inauguration marks the final victory of Mrs Thatcher over the junta. British discussion of the concept of a partitioned sovereignty for the Falklands could be interpreted as a gesture of magnanimity and goodwill.

The author is Conservative MP for Beckenham.

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Frederick Bonnard on the need to stop the transatlantic drift



Nato's New Year task: restoring its crumbling unity

Brussels

The American medium-range missiles have begun to arrive in Europe: the protest movements have registered their objections without too great an effect; the Soviet Union has conceded defeat by walking out of arms control negotiations. At their year-end meeting, Nato's foreign ministers could have been celebrating. Instead, a creeping concern is now evident in the alliance.

At the suggestion of Leo Tindemans, the Foreign Minister of Belgium, the Nato Council decided to review its policies towards the East and determine a common line of action. The permanent representatives of Nato member countries will meet next Wednesday to start the process and are due to submit their suggestions to the foreign ministers' next meeting, in Washington, this May. Ministers were, however, sharply divided about the usefulness of the exercise; the proposal has shown up some awkward strains in the alliance.

Most of the European allies, believing they cannot afford to let confrontation solidify into a permanent ice pack, say immediate action is needed. Acutely aware of the anxieties of western public opinion, they expect pressure from their parliaments on this. Others, particularly the United States, maintain the alliance must do nothing to reward the Soviet Union for walking out of the negotiations. US sources point out that there is a danger of the allies being made to look ridiculous and weak by too eagerly seeking accommodation. They considered

the report unlikely to break much new ground but agreed to go along with the proposal, albeit with caution.

One cause of the present uneasiness is that while arms-control negotiations were continuing, senior US officials maintained almost permanent contact with their allies, with monthly, later fortnightly briefings and consultation at Nato and in several capitals, on the progress of the negotiations, which resulted in a cohesive foreign policy approach. But with the arms negotiations at a halt, this intimate consultation process has also ceased. Once again Europe and the US are in danger of drifting apart on their different attitudes to the East.

The planned review, which aims to build a framework within which Nato, and individual countries, would decide on a consistent attitude, will begin by analysing the reasons for the failure of the negotiations. It will try to determine the misconceptions the Soviet leadership has about the West and to clear up alliance errors about the

Soviet Union and other Eastern bloc countries.

An obvious possible future venue for negotiation is the Stockholm conference on confidence-building measures, due to start on January 17. There are others, such as the United Nations Committee for Disarmament, still meeting regularly in Geneva, and the United Nations itself in New York. The review will also make contingency plans for joint attitudes and action for unforeseen developments such as the crises over Afghanistan and Poland.

The timing is vital, in view of the effect of the run-up to the presidential election in the United States, on both the US and Soviet positions. European officials believe that the American public at present supports direct action such as that in Grenada; Europeans are therefore wary of electioneering language which may have uncalculated fallout in the Kremlin.

Senior Nato officials consider that the leadership problem in the Soviet Union will result in a cautious but rigid Soviet attitude.

Though it is thought that the Soviet Union is seriously worried about its relations with the US, the Brezhnev era with its "detente" symbol is definitely over; there will be little capacity for compromise. The Soviet armed forces and their backers in the Kremlin may exercise a veto power over proposals for halting or reducing their own missile deployment and it would need strong political leadership, which may be absent now, to overcome this. There is also so much antipathy in the Kremlin to the Reagan administration that Soviet leaders will not want to help his campaign by presenting him with a foreign policy success. Nato analysts believe that the Russians tend to take a long-term view and prefer to move slowly; they therefore consider that any major change before the US elections in November is very unlikely.

The review of Nato policy is intended to cover this gap. It will point out once more the defensive nature of allied military preparations and, at the same time, emphasize the genuine desire for a stable relationship with the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. As well as the aims of reducing the Soviet feeling of insecurity and simultaneously reassuring western people while missile deployment continues, there is a third purpose. The review will try to ensure that the allied cohesion gained by the close consultation process during the arms control negotiations is not now lost.

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Strumming up support for a change in the law

Kay and Mr Helm, who recently changed the name of their act from "Gutter Music" to the "Dissidents", have suffered from "the criminalization of their professional activities in England by virtue of by-laws and legislation prohibiting obstruction of the highway or trespass (railways, underground)".

The Commission concluded, however, that the applicants had not "substantiated their claim that they are 'outlaws' deserving of prosecution for some years by their mobility"; nor had they presented convincing evidence of "severe ill-treatment" or discrimination by state authorities as defined under various articles of the relevant convention.

Enforcement of the obstruction laws under which buskers most often face prosecution is usually a police discretion. Until relatively recently, the Dissidents wrote, "a degree of tolerance was exercised by police on the street which allowed professional buskers to operate



legally despite their uncertain legal status.

"But tolerance is a dangerous thing: a change in social climate or a different hand on the reins of power and the tolerance can be withdrawn, leaving those who were merely tolerated with no protection from the logical consequences of the law."

Bongo Mike and Jeremy have a great deal more to say on the subject of situation art, high versus low culture, and the like. I have known them for a year now, and I still have no idea whether they are entirely serious or whether their occasional pomposity and studied idiosyncrasy are really an elaborate send-up of the

Mike and Frank: from Dossers to Dissidents but still officially on the criminal fringe

conventional world they have so unapologetically rejected. Do they really mean it, for example, when they write: "Each performance situation is surrounded by certain particular archetypes: the lesser artist remains imprisoned by them, the greater artist rises above them." And is the average busker's day really conducive to rumination on "the oriental concept of freedom from opposites", entailing "freedom from the parcelling up by mankind of his environment along rigidly dualistic lines of distinction...? Is an alleged gap between 'high' and 'low' culture indeed 'the most socially disastrous polarity of all those generated by the dualistic, fragmentary tendency in society'? A more realistic polarity, if polarity there must be, is between the likes of Bongo Mike and Extremely Frank Jeremy, who are indisputably professional artists, however unorthodox, and the newer breed of 'busker', usually on the young side and often a music student, strumming round the Underground for pin money or performing by appointment in Covent Garden.

If nothing else, a recorded anthology of street music to be issued by Risk II records in February ought to advance their cause, whatever that may be. Their is the title track: *It's a Crime* (to play music in the streets). Meanwhile, Bongo Mike notes wryly, foreign-language pamphlets designed by the British Tourist Authority to entice overseas visitors to London feature a sketch of a busker on the cover.

Tony Samstag

Phillip Whitehead

Why I grieve for Leonard Arthur

Some deaths clutch at the heart. On Christmas Day died one of the finest men I have ever known. Leonard Arthur had faced, in rapid succession, the two worst ordeals a medic man could endure. He had been in the dock, charged with the attempted murder of one of the handicapped children to whom he had devoted his life. Eighteen months later, he discovered that he had a brain tumour, and was to be the fully-conscious witness of his own slow decline.

All this he bore with fortitude, even serenity. It would be worth recording for a public which heard of his death only in the sensational tones of the tabloid front pages - "Down's Case Baby Doctor Dead."

But it is his life I want to remember before the pressure group Life took a hand. Leonard Arthur could have been many things after he qualified at the Middlesex Hospital. He could have risen in consultancy or teaching in the metropolis. He had a brilliant daughter, the eminent neurologist, Lord Brain; such a couple could have stayed close to the glittering prizes. Instead, they chose service far afield. As a national service medical officer during the Korean war, he volunteered for front-line service. He worked for a time in Nigeria. Then the Arthurs settled in the Derbyshire village of Church Broughton, raised their six children, and became part of that small army of permanent volunteers which keeps rural society on the march.

Dr Arthur, consultant paediatrician, entered the lives of many thousands of children stricken by disease or handicap. He never left them.

He was the very model of what the National Health Service should be: humane, tenacious, principled.

These three qualities shone through his work. He knew the dangers of size and remoteness. He knew that the volunteer can sometimes inspire the parts of a health service which bureaucrats cannot reach. So you came upon him, as I first did, late at night launching some new group based on felt need - readers and teachers for dyslexic children, riding lessons for parents under extreme stress. He knew that for the human face of medicine, a community must turn its own features to the glass. He was tenacious in his fight for resources, human and material.

When some colleagues flagged, seeing the Derbyshire district treated, in NHS priorities, as the fringe of a fringe, he persuaded them to stay on. How else, he argued, would the imbalances ever be removed?

Above all, he knew there could never be a National Health Service without universality, suffused with altruism. So he led by example. His world was the clinic, not the consulting room. He took no private patients, gave no thought to the "market value" of his exceptional gifts. He wanted everyone to have the best that could be provided, on the basis of need. There are still thousands like him, happy to ignore the new world of market values. But it was his fate to be singled out as the focus of a court case which went to the very heart of medical ethics.

The Arthur case made legal history. The man who had helped so many victims of handicap was linked with just one, newborn, abandoned by its parents, severely

handicapped and grievously sick, for whom he was alleged to have prescribed "nursing care only". From accusations by an anonymous informer, to Life, Dr Arthur was taken to Leicester Crown Court to answer, not just for himself but for the awesome responsibilities of his profession. Those who sought the case were not moved by the bewilderment and anger of the



Leonard Arthur: compassion was all thousands of disabled people he had treated, nor did they accept his acquittal.

It cannot have been easy for them to square the reality of the serene defendant - secure in his Christian faith, and the knowledge that even with hindsight he would not have done otherwise - with the pillory they had hoped to prepare.

In that 18-day court ordeal, Dr Arthur, ironically, won national respect and admiration. When the trial was over, he put it behind him and returned to work at the Derby Children's Hospital to universal approbation. And yet, perhaps, it was not quite over. The strain still sat in his face, in his transparency of feature. Last year, before the trees were in leaf, there came upon him the first numb indications that he would never see another spring.

The unsparing frankness and care which he had given to so many of his patients he now had to apply to his own, well-understood, prognosis.

His life, foreshortened, was still fiercely lived on all levels. I saw him as the months passed, sombre in the first light at musical evenings; unfamiliar under the hat that replaced his vanished hair at an election meeting in June, but still recognizable by his rapt attention; holding court in his wheelchair at concerts and Labour Party socials. He would even turn up in his wheelchair to help at the hospital. He died, still in faith and hope, on Christmas Day.

We buried him by the door of his parish church. His Quaker wife and his six children sang a roundsong by the open grave, while the congregation of hundreds, some of them handicapped, filed out into the bright day. That was their tribute. This is mine. Leonard Arthur had to stand trial for the conscience of his profession. In death he can serve as an exemplar of the very highest traditions of the NHS. He stands for the men and women like him who keep the principle of a free and comprehensive health service alive at this bleak time. At his funeral, his brother-in-law, Canon Edward Longman, asked us to remember him, either in silence or in speech. In the silence, a very young baby cried, lustily. No better trumpet could have carried Leonard Arthur to the other side.

The author was Labour MP for Derby, North, 1970-83.

John P. Harris

How I shall rue our street names

Near Clermont l'Herault

The locals are delighted. Not me, though. The news has come round that we are going to have street names. The municipal council (nine members, thus 11 per cent of the population) spent most of their last meeting surrounded by different samples of name plates, adjourning at a deadlock - three councillors for each of the three tendencies: elegant sobriety, multicoloured gaiety, and austere economy. Later on they will have to choose the names, which should keep them going for many a winter evening.

There isn't really any hurry. From the middle ages up until about 1930 the population of the village, halfway between Montpellier and Béziers, was around 200. They got on perfectly well without street names. Now we're down to 80... but you can't stop progress. We have neon street lighting, main drainage and a GIVE WAY sign where the avenue of plane trees joins the very minor road leading somewhere else, so street names had to come.

It's easy to see what will happen. "Euh, pardon, Madame, I'm looking for the rue du 4 Janvier."

"Well, you've got the wrong village, young man. This is Saint-Fulcran-de-Fobis and you want Saint-Fulcran-de-Pouzolles. It's round the other side of the hill. Just follow that road..."

That is a familiar dialogue here. The other Saint-Fulcran is a great big agglomeration of 300 inhabitants, with street names since 1960. Great big names, too: airmen and Boulevard Saint-Exupéry, six houses long and just wide enough for a delivery van to scratch both its sides generously, to choose among the Avenue Louis Bleriot, the Impasse Jean Racine and the rue Marcel Proust, the other end of which is a madeleine's throw from the Place Jean Mermoz. (A really well-thrown madeleine would sail across the Place, go down the Avenue Gustave Flaubert and land well inside the postman's vineyard.)

Of course, no one ever uses those names. The only people who seem

aware of them are observant visitors. People go on living, as they have always done, opposite the post office or behind the church.

But we, in the other Saint-Fulcran, are only too used to the puzzled inquiries of salesmen and debt-collectors who have stopped at the wrong village....

"No, no, madame, it really is Saint-Fulcran-de-Fobis I want. Henri Poujol, number one, rue..."

"Oh well, why didn't you say so? You go down the road to the cemetery, turn right just before the pétanque pitch, and Henri's is the first house on the left, the one with the fossilized giant oysters round the door. You can't go wrong."

So la petite Place will remain la petite Place when we need to distinguish it from la grande Place (as for example when the mobile butcher has stopped his van there because la grande Place has been totally occupied by two parked cars). But what will curious strangers see on the name plates - *Place de l'Eglise* or *Place de la Mairie*? Or, to remain neutral in the still-lively lay clerical battle, *Place de la Cabine Téléphonique*?

I'm a bit of a snob about this. In the days when Nancy Mitford was writing about N and non-U I learnt that the best address (unless of course one was the MacBitch of MacBitch) had the form: I, Smith Esq., taking personally I prefer the essential U of The Archbishop, Canterbury, or Mr R. M. Khomeini, Qom, and for the last six years I've enjoyed similar stark arrogance. (In this article I've disguised the name of the village. Complaints, fan letters, gifts etc should be sent to *The Times* - quite a U-address still.)

Nemeses after hubris, soon I shall be in la rue something? No. 1? Perhaps a mere No. 2, for there are two houses in my street. I can't even hope for the Promenade des Anglais, because Madame Vidal and her daughter have lived next door for 65 and 67 years respectively, and you might say it's their street. Of course I shan't tell my correspondents the name, whatever it turns out to be. It would only puzzle the postman.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

PRESSURES OF WELFARE

When the rain comes down, it should be no surprise to see everyone in a sight struggling to get their umbrellas up. The world-wide deluge of recession has naturally caused most countries to experience strains of adjustment which have much in common with each other. But most countries, and Britain more than most, find it too easy to overlook the common factors, and regard the experience as a crisis peculiar to themselves - a phenomenon connected with Thatcherism or the demoralization of the Labour Party, and not just one variation on a broader theme. But it is worth noting that the umbrellas have been going up all over Europe, because their condition and colour, and the relative efficiency with which they unfold, may be informative about the nature of the downpour, and the best means of minimizing the drenching.

It is common knowledge that high unemployment and alarms about inflation and controlling public expenditure have been general in Europe, and indeed in the developed world, since the late seventies. Time of onset and vigour of response have of course differed from country to country, but it is striking how closely our own experience has paralleled that in a number of neighbouring countries. And last year in a cluster of general elections, in Britain, West Germany and Norway (with another election in Denmark likely to be added to the series later this month), the electorates have endorsed an approach to social and economic policy that we might in our provincial way identify as Thatcherite.

In Holland and Belgium, governments of the centre-right, determined to act against inflation, have met and weathered concerted challenges from public sector unions (claiming more or less seriously to be striking in defence of welfare standards) of a kind that has often been predicted here since 1979, but never materialized even when the health workers' dispute of 1982 provided what might have appeared a perfect opportunity.

The simplest, though possibly the profoundest, lesson to be drawn from all this is that once again it appears that voters in mature democracies will accept a convincingly-argued case from their leaders that painful policies are required. There are minor signs of political polarization in some of the countries concerned, but essentially the pain of adaptation has not yet threatened the system, as a comparable shock might have done in regimes not based on consent.

Welfare provision has been the most painful area for the

examination. Politicians of all parties have an interest in dramatizing the significance of what happens at home, in tones either of triumph or outrage. They find it more profitable to have slanging matches over today's expenditure than over that of tomorrow, which may never come, or may come when the other fellow is in office. For all its display of resolution over welfare spending, the Government has been hesitant about laying down the principles on which it wants to see policies made in future. The result is a curious effect of apocalyptic procrastination.

A study is now promised into the implications of low growth and high unemployment on prospects for pensions and welfare. But what is needed is not so much facts as clearer political priorities. It is not difficult to say what we want, but very difficult indeed to point avenues towards implementing one slogan without moving away from another. The burden on state expenditure can be lightened, but at what cost in heavier burdens on individuals and industry, through insurance contributions? Consumer choice can be improved, but probably only by increasing the burden of welfare on the productive economy. A drive to greater cost-effectiveness is not necessarily compatible with the maintenance either of choice or equity, and is a somewhat artificial exercise while we are unable to put a price on health as such. Which objectives should come first?

There is a worrying side to the spectacle of European electorates endorsing welfare cuts so easily. The majority everywhere is healthy, solvent and relatively fortunate. Of course the majority foresees that it may one day need to make calls on social provision for the less fortunate, so that self-interest as well as idealism gives a motive to accept social expenditure. But when treasury departments are looking for instant savings to balance bungled budgets, the temptation in the absence of clear principles of policy is to snatch at what comes easiest and causes least protest.

It is those with unspectacular afflictions, the chronic sick, the lonely and the ugly who may be most easily overlooked, and whose dependence on aid may be the greatest. Identifying ethical priorities and securing society's endorsement of them is the task of political leadership. Otherwise the course of social policy is not directed, but simply happens. Since Beveridge, in a period mostly buoyant, social policy in Britain has to a great extent simply happened, in a time of hard choices, that is no longer enough.

ON THE ONE HAND BUT NOT ON THE OTHER

The Soviet leaders would like to proceed with their dual policy of encouraging disruptive peace demonstrations in the West while crushing all unofficial actions in their own domain. Several of the members of the Moscow Group to Establish Trust have been imprisoned or expelled. Their contacts with Western groups provide little protection, as was shown yet again by the recent arrest of Mrs Olga Medvedkova on the absurd charge of assaulting a policeman.

In Eastern Europe the authorities have more difficult problems to contend with. In his New Year address Mr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, said that the deployment of Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in Western Europe had brought "probably the most dangerous period of postwar development", but Protestant pastors and Roman Catholic priests have urged their parishioners not to sign government petitions which ask workers to express their welcome for the Soviet missiles, which are being installed in retaliation, by promising to work an extra day every month to help pay for them. Exiling or imprisoning individual protesters is more tricky since the unofficial "Swords into Ploughshares" movement is supported by the

established churches. Nevertheless, the regime continues its attempts at repression. Last month a New Zealand CND member working in Britain who visited the East Berlin group called Women for Peace was arrested on the border but released after diplomatic protests. The homes of those she visited were ransacked by police and four members of the peace group were detained.

In Czechoslovakia even government spokesmen have seemed reluctant to accept the basing of Soviet intermediate nuclear weapons in their country. The Prime Minister, Mr Lubomir Strougal, said that the decision was "forced in the interest of the nation's defence capability". In November about twenty members of the Charter-77 human rights movement were taken into police custody and threatened with ten-year prison terms for subversion should they protest against the missiles. Charter-77 protested in a letter to the Czechoslovak leaders that their support for Western peace movements now seemed "not an expression of esteem for civil responsibility but exploitation of a tool used only to weaken the other side". An appeal to peace protesters in the West, signed also by Rudolf Batek and

Catholics in China

From the Very Reverend Canon J. Crozier

Sir, Referring to the Church in China (December 20) David Bonavia writes: "relations with Catholics in China are blocked by the Vatican's refusal to recognize the Peking-appointed hierarchy, which denies its authority. This is a consequence of Rome's continued relations with the Church in Taiwan".

The Peking hierarchy is the Patriotic Association formally established by the Communist government in July, 1957. Forty-two bishops were ordained in this schismatic church. Few priests and

lay persons joined this organization, which was condemned by Pius XII in 1958. The Church in Taiwan however is in full communion with Rome.

With regard to the Catholic hierarchy of China, some are prisoners of conscience, others are in exile. Typical members are Ignatius Kang Si, Bishop of Shanghai, and Dominic Tang, St. Bishop of Canton. They were arrested in 1958 and without trial or sentence, imprisoned.

Towards the end of his term, in 1980, the senior police officer asked Bishop Tang: "What is your attitude to the Papacy?" He simply answered: "No Pope, no Catholic Church." The officer reported that the Bishop was a good man but

politically confused. He was released but told he was no longer considered the Bishop of Canton.

In the year Dominic Tang was ordained Bishop, Mother Teresa founded her order of missionaries. They are of an age, and radiate the same cheerful serenity founded in a deep Christian faith. While he languished in the Canton prisons for 22 years, seven in solitary confinement, she was toiling in the slums of Calcutta, carrying her mission of charity to India and the world.

Yours faithfully,
J. CROZIER,
1 Radley Road,
Abingdon,
Oxfordshire,
December 21.

Spending by local agreement

From the Leader of Sheffield City Council

Sir, In your leaders of December 17 and 21 you once again warn the Government of the folly of their proposals to take powers to directly determine the levels of expenditure, quality of services and budgets of local authorities. The consistent stand taken by The Times on this issue is to be warmly welcomed and would be ignored with folly by the Cabinet.

However, with the publication of the Bill, it is equally dangerous for any hint to be given that, whilst the general principle of removing local democracy and the power of people to determine their own needs and services at a local level is sacrosanct, it can be justified against what the Secretary of State described on a recent television broadcast as "the loony authorities", whose political complexion is undesirable.

This notion that there are "acceptable" and "unacceptable" political opinions within our democratic framework is not only worrying but extremely dangerous. If removing local democracy within our pluralistic state is itself undesirable, then equally it must be so for those "selected" councils whose historic needs and level of rates places them in the Secretary of State's "hit list".

If this were not true, then democracy would not depend on the voting habits of the local or national electorate but on the acceptability of the outcome to those who wish to retain power in their own hands.

This doctrine, which has led dictators across the world to justify their actions, leads governments to believe that their overall objective is more important than the means by which they obtain them.

On a purely pragmatic level it is absurd nonsense to believe that there are a group of local authorities whose non-adherence to good advice from the centre has put them beyond the pale and whose actions place them in a category outside the normal bounds of reasonableness.

It is a simple fact that for most authorities on the Secretary of State's "unacceptable" selective list no rate increase at all would be necessary from April 1984, if it were not for the "hold back" penalty system which is intended to bludgeon the local electorate into rejecting those councils putting forward a programme based on no cuts in services or substantial job losses.

There is, therefore, one simple answer to the question of high rate increases. It is to remove the penalty system altogether and allow the interplay of market forces and the democratic accountable electoral system to take their course.

Yours sincerely,
D. LUNKEIT, Leader,
Sheffield City Council,
Town Hall,
Sheffield,
December 21.

Heard to be done

From the Director General of the International Hospital Federation

Sir, I can well believe Mr Daly's claim (December 30) that the rates charged by members of his International Association of Conference Interpreters (AICI) are between 15 and 30 times higher than Italian court rates.

Generally speaking, the quality of AICI interpreters is certainly good, but I hope Mr Daly may ponder whether his trade union is not in danger of pricing itself out of the market with the very high rates that it charges, plus expenses for travel and accommodation.

I know that these extremely high charges either deter some international organizations from providing simultaneous translation at all (particularly for smaller meetings where the cost cannot be spread among a high number of fee-paying registrants) or encourage them to look for help elsewhere than from AICI members.

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International Hospital Federation,
126 Albert Street, NW1,
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Educating lawyers

From Mr Charles P. Reed

Sir, The thrust of Roger Scruton's article, "Laying down the law" (December 20), is reminiscent of Sir Walter Scott's famous observation: "A lawyer without history or literature is a mere working mason; if he possesses some knowledge of these, he may venture to call himself an architect." (Guy Mannering).

Mr Scruton argues for a broader education for our potential judges (the barristers), embracing something more than the mere study and practice of law. In this way he believes that the "creative genius" of judges in unravelling the knots of human conflict will be boosted.

Perhaps. However, I would suggest that a more practical and likely method of achieving this laudable aim would be to broaden

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I refer in particular to the recent visit to Namibia by five Anglican bishops and Mr Terry Waite,

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Sir, Dr John Twidell (December 30) claims to find a contradiction in my statement to the House of Commons on December 21 about Sellafield.

There is no such contradiction. The National Radiological Protection Board has conducted an examination of all the possible routes by which people in the area could be exposed to the radioactivity washed up from the sea. They concluded that the radioactivity concerned posed no hazard "to the general population of the area".

When I used this phrase I meant, and I believe the House of Commons understood, people living and working in that part of West Cumbria. On the other hand, NRPB are concerned that if someone were to go on the beach and handle contaminated items then they could exceed the annual dose limit for the skin.

The time this would take would clearly depend on the level of radioactivity in the particular sample. In one case it would have been as short as 10 to 15 minutes and in other cases a few hours. But these particular exposures were easily avoidable and it was sensible to warn the public of the risk.

The published reports by the National Radiological Protection Board and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, which are freely available from those bodies, contain the numbers which Dr Twidell appears to be seeking.

Yours sincerely,
PATRICK JENKIN,
2 Marsham Street, SW1,
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Date of Crucifixion

From Mr J. Enoch Powell, MP for Down, South (Official Unionist Party)

Sir, Members of the Department of Metallurgy and Science of Materials at Oxford have determined (*The Times*, December 23) the date of the Crucifixion on the assumption of a lunar eclipse which appears to be mentioned in the report of Pontius Pilate to Tiberius, which M. R. James in printing it called "a late document".

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Eleanor statuary

From Lady Almon

Sir, I must add my strong support to Dr Kahn (December 12) for the preservation and restoration of the historic Eleanor crosses and in particular for the one at Hardinestone, near Northampton. The top left to right of this cross has been missing for well over 30 years, yet detailed drawings exist of the complete cross as it was in 1820 in Baker's *Northamptonshire*, a copy of which is in the library of the Northamptonshire Record Society at Delapre Abbey.

If efforts are being made to restore the cross it would immeasurably add to its beauty if the top could be restored to its original design at the same time.

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THE ARTS

Records: Paul Griffiths and John Higgins close the account

Twilit wonders Boulez makes immediate

Wagner: Götterdämmerung. Solists/Oregon. Staatskapelle/Janowski. Eurodisc 301 917-468 (6 records).
Liszt: Faust Symphony. Les Philharmoniques/Muti. EMI SLS 1435703.
Liszt: Christus. Solists/Dortmund Music Union Choir/Cologne. PO/Heinz Panzer. DG 0180 075 (4 records).
Dukas: Ariane et Barbe-Bleue. Solists/New PO of French Radio/Jordan. Erato/Conifer NUM 750893 (3 records).

A Ring that started in triumph has ended in magnificence mixed with confusion: the story matches all too well that of the work itself. Where his *Rheingold* and *Walküre* were almost universally admired, his *Siegfried* already appeared problematic and his new *Götterdämmerung* is a twilight indeed, if one that sometimes seems to be involving galaxies in its downfall.

What rocks the foundations of this *Götterdämmerung* is also what proved most valuable in the earlier operas: Mr Janowski's perception of the orchestral score as a potent narrative thread. And, if this now works against the strength of the performance, the fault is partly Wagner's, for in *Die Walküre* the orchestra is a projection of the minds of the characters, whereas in *Götterdämmerung* it is much more the aural setting for an epic. A quickening excitement in the dialogue between Siegmund and Sieglinde, therefore, has a real grounding in the dramatic situation, whereas an extravagant tragic manner in this final opera - in the interlude before the Brünnhilde-Walküre scene, for example, or in the funeral music for Siegfried - can sound intolerably vulgar.

On the positive side, the Dresden orchestra continue to provide some of the most sheerly beautiful Wagnerian sounds to have been heard through loudspeakers, and the cast is generally good. The pathetic, unknowing Siegfried of this opera is possibly René Kollo's best part, and Jeannine Altmeyer sees through to the end her palpably human, suffering Brünnhilde. Outstanding among the rest is the fearsome, ebony-smooth and

obdurate Hagen of Matti Salminen.

Set beside Wagner's, Liszt's seems a more human art in its admission of contradiction and variety of taste. New recordings of two major works emphasize the difference. The *Faust Symphony* may find justification for a spirit personality in its portrayal of Faust, Gretchen and Mephistopheles, but its massive strengths are not so neatly explained. Indeed, they almost tear the music apart, especially in a powerful performance under conductor's firm hand to keep it on target when so much is being so furiously stalked.

The oratorio *Christus* is a still more variable work, going all the way from the sublime to the appallingly sentimental, from the awesomely majestic to the trivial. In fact, it is not really a "work" at all but rather a collection of episodes relating to each other as might the parts of a cathedral built over several centuries. A recording provides the ideal opportunity to explore this ramshackle edifice, and the lack of star names should deter no one: this is a very thoughtful and positive performance, an act of irregular faith as much as Liszt's in composing the thing.

Another act of faith is embodied in the new recording, the first ever, of Dukas's largest work, his opera *Ariane et Barbe-Bleue*. Setting Maeterlinck only a few years after *Pelléas*, Dukas was naturally very aware of Debussy's opera; he even quotes it. However, his musical and emotional solidity is far from Debussy - as far as Richard Strauss, or Massenet, or Franck, or (in premonition) Messiaen, all of whom are called to mind at various points. If the work still has an atmosphere entirely its own, that is probably because Dukas was so deeply involved in his heroine's quest for truth and integrity, whatever the cost. *Ariane* is a fairy tale with a moral, and a score of great splendour. With a cast led by the imperious mezzo Katharine Ciesinski, and with vocal conducting from Armin Jordan, the recording is an important addition to the repertoire of the gramophone, especially when this is an opera that takes place so much in the mind. P.G.

Boulez: Rituel, Ecrit/Multiples. BBCSO/Ensemble. CBS 74109.
Messiaen: Livre d'orgue. Jennifer Bate. Unicorn-Kanchana DKK 9028.
Koechlin: Seven Stars Symphony. Monte Carlo PO/Myrt. EMI ASD 178181.
Davies: Piano Sonata; Goehr: Capriccio. Nonomiya, Stephen Prusin. Auracore AUC 1005.

Anyone confused about the state of music today (and that includes most of us) could well find succour in the new recording of two works by Boulez. As they stand, they both date from the 1970s: *Rituel* was quickly written in 1973-74 as a memorial to Boulez's colleague Bruno Maderna; *Ecrit/Multiples* is a piece of slower growth and more mutable form which the recording freezes in the state it had reached around the time of *Rituel*. The two pieces are, however, wholly unlike. *Rituel* is a processional, solemn and magnificent, where instrumental groups lay down their wreaths of melodies and march slowly on in massive chords. The orchestra is predominantly of wind instruments, with layers of slow ticking from rhythm percussion to keep time.

Ecrit/Multiples, much more typically for Boulez, puts the accent on the splashy resonances of tuned percussion: vibraphone, harp, bells, celesta and the rest. It is music of great brilliance and energy, figured with lightning gestures, moving in quite other ways than the slow, steady tread of *Rituel*. The only thing that unites the works is their beauty, and the fact that both make an immediate appeal through the outward show of that beauty in marvellousness of sound.

Rituel is probably the most Messiaen-like piece Boulez has composed, in which case it makes a nice comparison with the elder composer's *Livre d'Orgue*, written during a brief period, around 1950, when he was much influenced by his young pupil. No wonder Unicorn-Kanchana have kept this tough nut until last in their magnificent Messiaen cycle played by Jennifer Bate at Beauvais Cathedral, for there



Pierre Boulez: achieving beauty of

are movements of the *Livre* that still sound as austere forbidding as crosswords in Sanskrit. Even so, Miss Bate makes it all work, and, if the mechanism of the music is perceived as arcane, its substance is communicated with enormous strength and candour.

Messiaen's own antecedents remain obscure, though somewhere among them must be counted the hugely productive Charles Koechlin, whose *Seven Stars Symphony* is once more available in a recording that generously adds the Ballade, Op 50, a single-movement piano

concerto of intimate musing played by Bruno Rigutto. The symphony has the charming plan of devoting each movement to the portrayal of a film star of the period (1933): variations for Marlene Dietrich that hover between the academic and the sexy, a substantial study in optimistic pessimism for Charlie Chaplin, a slow movement led by the ethereal ondes martenot for Greta Garbo, and so on. As a curiosity the piece is excellent value. And then one finds that Koechlin is also a quite remarkable composer.

Releases of 1983

Alluring Strauss

Strauss: Daphne. Popp/Goldberg/Schreier/Moll/Bavarian RSO/Haitink. EMI SLS 1435823 (2 records).
Puccini: La rondine. Te Kanawa/Domingo/Rendall/Nucci/LSO/Mazel. CBS D2 37852 (2 records).
Mado Robin: Souvenirs de la Belle Époque. Conifer/EMI 2C 061-11084.

The last part of 1983 brought two little-performed operas by highly popular composers: Richard Strauss's *Daphne* and Puccini's *La rondine*. Both issues are quite good enough musically to encourage any opera house hesitating over them to step forward and take the plunge.

Strauss's late *Daphne* - only *Die Liebe der Danae* and *Capriccio* were to follow as stage works - has a ravishing score, at least to those who like the composer at his most sumptuous. Directors will immediately point out similarities with the last section of *Ariadne auf Naxos*. But there are a number of obstacles in the way of theatrical success, including an overblown libretto by Joseph Gregor about the girl *Daphne* who ends by being turned into a laurel tree. And indeed much of the action is rooted to the spot.

There is too the matter of casting: the title role is extremely taxing, not least because there is no break in the hundred or so minutes of music, and two contrasting tenors of strength and range are needed for the parts of Apollo and *Daphne*'s childhood friend, Leukippos.

In the studio these problems become a shade easier and EMI have solved them well. Lucia Popp has probably been caught at just the right time in her career for *Daphne*: the coloratura is still there, so is the girlish freshness in the voice, but with them there is the mature volume to pierce the orchestra.

Reiner Goldberg's clarity and ring, despite a bit of strain at the top of the voice, as Apollo make it all the more disappointing that he did not achieve Bayreuth as *Siegfried* last summer. He has clearly worked hard with his

conductor, and vice versa. His fellow East German Peter Schreier is as accomplished and as musical as ever in the role of Leukippos. But it is for the orchestra above all that *Daphne* draws the listener and Bernard Haitink, who has already proved his way with late Strauss at Glyndebourne, draws exquisite music from the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra.

It should be noted that DG reissued the only rival set on cheap label not so long ago, although it was swiftly deleted, perhaps only temporarily. But despite the unchallenged credentials of Karl Böhm in the pit and the presence of Fritz Wunderlich (Leukippos) the sound quality, drawn from 1964 performances at the Theater an der Wien during the Vienna Festival, is not the best.

In *Daphne* Strauss returned to his beloved ancient Greece: in *La rondine* Puccini changed his arm, none too successfully, at a salon opera. Once again the libretto is stilted and far more changes than he did, although as usual he was not exactly undemanding. The score is always promising rather more than it delivers, despite the familiarity of the "bel sogno di Doretta" sung first by the second tenor (David Rendall) rather than the first, Ruggero (Plácido Domingo).

Nevertheless, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa makes a convincing and impetuous figure of the grand lady, Magda, who temporarily joins the ranks of the minidettes in pursuit of love. There is some impassioned singing between her and Domingo, both urged on by Loria Mazel, who has always been a fine Puccini conductor. The three of them together make *La rondine* sound much better than it really is.

Finally a *bonne bouche*. On the Conifer import list there is a succulent record made almost a quarter of a century ago by Mado Robin in Paris of the songs beloved by the Belle Époque: "Plaisirs d'amour", "Roses of Piccadilly" and even the Shadow Aria from Meyerbeer's *Dinorah*. Few singers sounded more idiomatic in his repertoire than Mme Robin. J.H.

Concerts

Le Nouveau Quatuor Purcell Room

Telemann has had such a raw deal in the past from generations of musicologists seemingly convinced that because he wrote so much he must have been writing drivel - an attitude enshrined in successive editions of *Grove's Dictionary* until the most recent revision - that it is good to find that he is getting his due from scholars as a strikingly original figure among the mid-eighteenth century ferment of musical styles, a new performing group is basing itself on his work.

Le Nouveau Quatuor has adapted its name from a set of pieces Telemann published in 1738: harpsichord, flute, violin and gamba form its basis, but since Telemann's instrumentations are rarely as simple as they seem, so too the quartet added a fifth member, for this concert.

Telemann's endless inventiveness creates plenty of problems: how do you balance an ensemble in which the usual bass instrument, the gamba, has an independent quasi-tenor part, or one in which the solo harpsichord is required to remain silent in the places where continuo support is most needed?

That this group did not quite solve that sort of poser was scarcely surprising, although in the two Paris Quartets which began and ended the evening the most striking imbalance was in the least difficult area, between violin and flute. Although Utako Ikeda's flute playing here and in the Trio No 4 was delicate and agile, it was too pale and unvaried to compete with the colourful string sounds of Elizabeth Wallfisch's violin or Mark Caudle's gamba.

Caudle, in partnership with Nigel North, provided some debonair, pastel-shaded playing in the Trio No 2 (where the

harpsichordist should surely have lowered the lid to avoid drowning the lute), and North himself played Bach's odd Prelude, Fugue and Allegro for lute in beautifully contemplative style, the resonances suiting both his large archlute and the dry hall admirably. Paul Nicholson, the reliable and energetic harpsichordist, gave Bach's Italian Concerto a fluent but unconvincing account.

The most interesting thing in the evening was Elizabeth Wallfisch's account of Bach's E major Violin Sonata; she holds her violin far more freely than most so-called baroque violinists, not using the chin at all, and scuttles her short bow across the strings with a rare assurance. Both her playing position and her dramatic sense create some problems of intonation and the occasional disconcerting unevenness, but the result has flair, passion and conviction.

Nicholas Kenyon

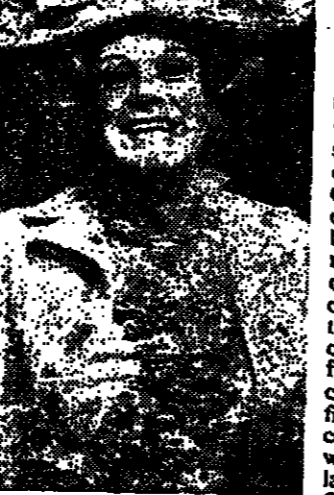
Theatre

Everything sacrificed

Hello, Dolly!

Prince of Wales

Casting a useful backward glance at this "interminable song-and-dance show", Brooks Atkinson remarked on the irony that Thornton Wilder's biggest hit had none of his personal quality. To which you can only say that Wilder had himself to blame for introducing the character of Dolly Levi in the first place. Let loose on a



Danny La Rue: crescendo of costume changes

perfectly good plot by Nestroy she promptly gobbled it up, and swelled to such proportions that there was nothing left but a monstrously bedizened cuckoo in charge of a rickety nest.

The musical which Michael Stewart and Jerry Herman assembled from Wilder's *The Matchmaker* sacrifices everything to Dolly. Instead of a wry story about a pair of wags slaves stealing a night out in town, and getting their lines crossed with their skintight employer, the musical empties out all danger and suspense by bringing on a Good Fairy who guarantees happy endings all round, in return for unremitting tributes of smiles and admiration. Every one of the numbers stops the action dead in its tracks; and the general effect (if you will forgive a food metaphor) is of a Wiener schnitzel swimming in hot chocolate sauce.

All these points have been made before. The only question is how Stewart and Herman, by killing a good play, achieved a musical which seems destined to pull in ecstatic houses until the crack of doom. The answer is that *Hello Dolly!* satisfies the hunger for star-worship. It is the ultimate example of a show that only exists to exhibit a totem figure for public worship. The part has attracted real actresses (like Mary Martin and Dora Bryan); but the main qualifications for anyone undertaking the role are pre-existent glamour and the capacity to receive applause gracefully.

It is therefore a fitting vehicle

for Danny La Rue, with whose performance the piece sheds its last link with the outside world. It matters not at all that there is no warmth in his playing, that the task of preserving a female mask, chin up, teeth gleaming, denies him any change in facial expression, and that his voice remains the small, incisively articulated instrument of a revue artist. What counts is that a lot of people are keen on Mr La Rue, and that he goes through the required crescendo of costume-changes from a modest salmon pink to an apocalyptic walk-down as if sprayed in icing sugar from top to toe.

In a way, it is a relief not to be asked to pay any attention to what was always an incoherent story. Take the scene of the double dinner in the Harmonia Gardens where the plot is developing nicely, with Cornelius and Vandergelder putting in rival requests to the restaurant orchestra, only to be summarily cut short by Dolly's arrival at the top of the staircase. On this occasion the diners are clearly filling in the time until she comes; and the attention is fixed not on them but on the cartwheeling and leap-frogging waiters (posthumous congratulations to the choreographer Gower Champion) who come into their own as a chorus of courtiers baying with ardent devotion for their queen.

Not in Peter Coo's production, is there any sense of the absurd when another chorus go whirling through the millinery shop; or when Mr La Rue (in his best played comedy scene) sits imperturbably wolfing a gigantic dinner in the midst of a prize-winning polka and police chase, finally arising from the picked bones to assume the role of defence lawyer before a heavenly judge suspended from the restaurant ceiling.

This state of affairs, admittedly, is a bit rough on the supporting company - particularly on Lionel Jeffries who has no chance to get into his Scrooge-like Vandergelder; and on Michael Sadler and Mark Addington who also look as though they would have given him a run for his money, given the opportunity. Of the supporting company, only Lorna Dallas, as the fun-loving milliner, escapes the shadow of the all-devouring star, and projects a firm character and a good voice of her own.

Irving Wardle

Jones/McMahon Wignore Hall

The two-piano recital, like the two-piano composition, is a strange creature, making unusually testing demands on both audience and performers. How, for example, to find a just balance between the intimacy and extroversion of the medium? How to tune in and pace one's listening?

Martin Jones and Richard McMahon, who have recorded the complete Rachmaninov music for two pianos, took up the challenge on Tuesday. Rachmaninov himself stood at the centre of the evening with his Second Suite. I have heard more mercurial, effervescent

performances, but, if Jones and McMahon did not quite make notes and nerves tingle in the March and Tarantella, then their characteristic compressed energy and steely simultaneity redoubled the energy of the Waltz, charging every second of its inner voices.

It was this brilliance of dexterity combined with carefully heard voicing that made their Grainger/Gershwin opening so successful. They have recently recorded Percy Grainger's Fantasy on *Porgy and Bess* on Oriana, and they now have to a nicety Gershwin's refracted images, blurred here, tinted there, toyed with or grandly framed by Grainger's own voracious appetite for rhythmic multiplicity and harmonic teasing.

It is more medley than true fantasy, compared, for instance, with Liszt's operatic transcriptions: the joins show, so what better than to glory in them? Jones and McMahon wisely did just that, sidestepping their way from "My man's gone now" to "It ain't necessarily so" and cutting through the knotty sequences linking "Bess" with "I got plenty of nuttin'".

Hilary Finch

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AE shares block sold

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began Dec. 30. Dealings end Jan 13. Contango Day, Jan 16. Settlement Day, Jan 23.

There were signs of apprehension among the speculative community as fears grew that the battle for control of AE formerly Associated Engineering would not be pursued on the Monopolies Commission's terms.

Shares of AE dipped to 60p as a line of 4.5 million shares, just under 5 per cent of the equity, was hurriedly placed with various institutions by broker Cazenove at 67.5p.

Earlier this week the board of AE changed its mind and decided to contest the bid from the engineering company's Guest Keen & Nettleflood shareholders.

This change of heart followed a decision taken by the AE board that the company has a bright future as an independent company. GKN launched its three-for-eight offer on the stock market in July. Last night the offer was worth 66.5p a share.

Sir Trevor Holdsworth, chairman of GKN, expressed his surprise at the AE decision. "We find it hard to reconcile what Mr Collyear has said in his chairman's statement with the letter he sent to shareholders."

FT index closed 1.5 at 770.3 having been 2.3 earlier in the day. Once interest was directed to the AE situation and the rash of recommendations, however, some brokers are

which lost another cent on the foreign exchange to close at \$14.200. But losses of up to 50p at the longer end of the market were later wiped out to close with gains of 1.4p.

The board of high-flyer Bellair Cosmetics has again been forced to comment on the present strength of the shares for the third time in less than nine months.

A statement issued yesterday said the directors noted the recent rise in the price, but are not aware of any factor which would cause it. "The price at which the shares are quoted bears no relationship to that established in the last report and accounts," it said.

Shares of Bellair were trading at about 12p this time last year when Wasson Establishment, a privately owned Turkish company, bought Fenton Hill's 76 per cent stake in Bellair for 8p a share. Already this year the shares have hit £12.25, but yesterday lost £1 to £11.

deal at £20m. Bell says its pretax profits for the six months ended December were in the order of £18.7m against £17.6m last time.

The brewery chief's expectations of a bumper Christmas have been reflected in the

November beer production showing an increase of 7.4 per cent to 2.75 million barrels.

Broker de Zoete & Bevan says production is up by 4 per cent to 1 per cent on an annualized basis and has risen 3.3 per cent in the past six months. "Take-home trade is reported to have been good, but publicans are said to be disappointed."

Brewery shares sparked on the news with Allied-Lyons surging 4p to 142p. Bass 6p to 31p, Belhaven 2p to 35p, H. P. Bulmer 3p to 218p, Greenhalgh 1p to 122p, Arthur Guinness 1p to 117p, Scott & Newcastle 5p to 104p and Whitbread 'A' 4p to 132p.

Honeywell Pension Trustees has bought a total of 443,000 shares in Cronie Group, an investment holding company. It now owns 75 per cent of the issued equity.

The Atlanta Investment Trust, which used to trade under the name Atlanta, Baltimore and Chicago Regional Investment Trust, has bought 875,000 shares in London Prudential Investment Trust. Atlanta says it has bought the stake, amounting to 14.58 per cent, as an investment.

THE TIMES 1000 1983/84

The World's Top Companies
Full statistical details and addresses: UK, Europe, USA, Japan, Hong Kong, Australia, Canada, Singapore, etc.
From bookshops at £17.50 or £19.00 (inc. postage & packing) from
Times Books Ltd, 16 Golden Square, London, W1.

1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	% P/E
128	128	128	Admiral	128	0	2.8	2.1
129	129	129	Admiral	129	0	2.8	2.1
130	130	130	Admiral	130	0	2.8	2.1
131	131	131	Admiral	131	0	2.8	2.1
132	132	132	Admiral	132	0	2.8	2.1
133	133	133	Admiral	133	0	2.8	2.1
134	134	134	Admiral	134	0	2.8	2.1
135	135	135	Admiral	135	0	2.8	2.1
136	136	136	Admiral	136	0	2.8	2.1
137	137	137	Admiral	137	0	2.8	2.1
138	138	138	Admiral	138	0	2.8	2.1
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150	150	150	Admiral	150	0	2.8	2.1

1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	% P/E
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1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	% P/E
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1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	% P/E
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1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	% P/E
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1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	% P/E
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266	266	266	Admiral	266	0	2.8	2.1
267	267	267	Admiral	267	0	2.8	2.1
268	268	268	Admiral	268	0	2.8	2.1
269	269	269	Admiral	269	0	2.8	2.1
270	270	270	Admiral	270	0	2.8	2.1

311	SA Land	445	-5	38.6	8.7
31	Suthvaal	1394	-14	255	6.5
100	Sunjeet Beal	255	•	45.2	17.7
180	Tanjong Tin	300	-25		e
212	Transvaal Cons	1241	•	186	6.8
58	Vaal Reefs	4754	-14	712	9.4
69	Venterspost	184	•	69.3	7.5
16	Wankle Colliery	17			
73	Welkom	58	•	95.8	12.0
334	W Rand Cons	455	-10	350	7.7

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Searching for the bid targets of 1984

Pity the wretched merchant banker plotting this year's takeovers. He knows that 1984 should be an open season for corporate predators. The equity market is riding a euphoric wave, the landscape is littered with the hulks battered by the recession, and for those who sailed through profits are booming. The prospects and the fees look juicy.

But how to pick the winners? To a large extent, of course, that is the client's decision. The predator must know what sort of business he wants to buy, and where. Yet for client and adviser there is a common problem: do the old formulae hold? Are the touchstones made familiar to the point of notoriety in the free-wheeling early 1970s valid today?

When the predator of old searched through his Extel cards (his latter day descendant enjoys the services of a computer) he concentrated on, among other things, four ratios: price-earnings, the discount of the share price to asset value, the return on assets, and cash. He was also interested in intangibles such as the quality of management and of earnings, the tightness with which the shares were held, and a company's strengths and weaknesses.

These tests are still indispensable. But a crude exercise, courtesy of Datastream, illustrates how misleading mere ratios can be. If, for example, our banker pushes the button asking for the 20 companies with capitalization of more than £50m which

have the lowest ratio of earnings to capital employed he gets rows of noughts. And what is more, most of them are against the names of second line oil stocks such as Sovereign and Candecor.

On reflection, however, the reason is plain. Some companies simply have no earnings because they are engaged in exploration and not production. It does not follow, therefore, that companies with lowest ratio of earnings to assets are badly run and ripe for takeover. Similarly, a list of companies with the most cash relative to their balance sheets is dominated by financial services companies such as Mills & Allen and by insurance brokers, including, interestingly enough, the embattled Stenhouse Holdings. But that is because insurance is a cash business which needs little in the way of fixed assets.

But even using slightly more rigorous tests, such as those demonstrated in the accompanying tables, produces odd results. It may be true that the mighty Shell Transport and Trading is among the 10 companies, capitalized at more than £50m, with the lowest price/earnings ratio. At 6.4 it is not much more than half the average on the stock market. Nobody, however, seriously anticipates a bid for Shell - not this year anyway.

Help is at hand, however. If it is correct that company's share price reflects the totality of relevant information available, the measure of net assets to market capitalization should tell the would-be buyer whether a company is cheap. And so it does. The list is headed by Dunlop, and includes several of the engineering companies which have suffered most severely during the recession. There is no doubt that in these cases the market still takes a reserved view of the future - and the assets.

Yet here lies the prime problem. A model company which met all these tests might not be vulnerable to a takeover because the turnaround time is too long. Lord Hanson could buy UDS because he saw the way in which its asset value could be unlocked quickly. What the merchant bankers know above all is that their client must have the skill not merely to spot the situations but also to maximise the benefits from them. Conditions are ripe this year for takeovers (conditions which may themselves keep the market buoyant) but the pressure is on predators more than ever to give quick satisfaction to their shareholders. As every banker knows, today's predator can be tomorrow's victim.

COMPANIES COMPARED FOR '84

Price earnings ratio	
Rothmans International 'B'	3.1
Burnett & Hallams	4.4
Patterson Zochonis	5.0
First National Finance	5.4
Allied Irish Banks	6.2
Coats Patons	6.3
Shell Transport	6.4
E.A.T. Industries	6.7
Standard Chartered Bank	6.9
Net assets as % of market value	
Dunlop	458.2
Turner & Newall	268.0
Lucas Industries	264.7
Pillingdon Bros	243.8
Westpool Inv. FPD	228.4
Burnett & Hallams	226.3
Westpool Inv. Trust	223.9
TI Group	218.5
Ocean Transport	211.6
AE	207.3

Shake-up starts at Inchcape

The retirement of the Earl of Inchcape from the group that bears his name seems destined to produce as big a shake-up as his retirement from the chair of his other family company P & O.

The first boardroom casualty of Sir David Orr's reign as chairman of Inchcape group, emerged yesterday. Mr Roy Davies, one of the group's eight senior executive directors, resigned just before Christmas and will leave at the end of the month, after almost 10 years with the group.

Mr Davies and Sir David disagreed on the future management policy of the international trading company whose profits slumped from £71m to £50m in three years to the end of 1982 and whose

half time results to last June were a disappointment to the City.

Neither side would comment yesterday on whether the boardroom row was over the structure or the personnel involved in the future management.

Sir David, who is currently travelling, took over from Lord Inchcape last summer, after retiring as head of Unilever. This summer he has to find replacements for two of his key senior directors, Mr Harold Foxon, the group managing director, and Mr James Ritchie, managing director responsible for Inchcape's African interests. They are both due for retirement. No statement has yet been made by the group on who will emerge as successor to run the company on a day to day basis.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Eagle Star urges bid acceptance

Sir Denis Mountain, chairman of Eagle Star, yesterday wrote to shareholders urging them to accept the 700p per share bid terms agreed with BAT Industries before the January 18 deadline for the offer.

He said that if the BAT offer is allowed to lapse, the Eagle Star share price would be likely to fall to a level substantially below the 700p level offered.

More than 1 million overseas visitors came to the United Kingdom in October, and 11 per cent increase over the year before. Travellers from north America increased in numbers by more than a half, said the Department of Trade and Industry.

Mountleigh Group is paying £4.25m in cash and one million of its shares to London and Northern Group for an office complex in Aberdeen. London and Northern intends to keep the one million shares representing about 14.3 per cent of Mountleigh's total, as an investment.

London Brick shares fell 7p to 138p on the stock market yesterday as fears grew that a £170m takeover bid from Hanson Trust may be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. London Brick said yesterday that it had made a detailed submission to the Office of Fair Trading setting out the reasons why it believes that Hanson's offer should be referred.

English & Caledonian has bought a 40 per cent stake in the Unicorn Organisation, the independent television production company headed by Mr Jack Gill, the former managing director of Associated Communications Corporation.

WALL STREET

Dow slips in early trading

New York (Reuters) - Wall Street stock prices were slightly lower in early trading yesterday as investors continued to trade cautiously because of interest rate fears.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 1 1/2 points to about 1251. Overall, declining stocks held a slight lead over gainers.

Volume was 21,710 million shares in the first hour of trading.

Eastman Kodak, which yesterday introduced a video camera, was off 3/4 to 76 1/2 in active trading. RCA, which also introduced a camera, was unchanged at 34 and traded actively.

Analysts said they expected volume to pick up later but were uncertain if Magabuck Street prices were slightly lower in early trading yesterday as investors continued to trade cautiously because of interest rate fears.

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Whatever the motivation,

Murdoch seeking satellite 'launch pad' say analysts

High stakes in Warner poker game

From Bailey Morris and Nick Gilbert in New York

Wall Street analysts expected the \$800m to \$1 billion struggle for control of Warner Communications to one of the most hotly contested duels the Street has seen in years among three colourful, highly motivated protagonists.

The immediate impact on markets, however, is expected to be minimal since under provisions of the News Corporation filing, the company must wait 30 days before buying additional Warner shares to meet US antitrust requirements.

Warner's stock opened yesterday unchanged at 27 1/2, a figure reflected in a minimum block trade of 85,000 shares which moved early in the day.

Analysts said the 30 day waiting period will give markets time to reflect on the stakes involved in the battle for Warner Communications which took a surprising turn on Tuesday when News Corpora-

Nigeria's new military rulers have moved swiftly to defuse fears that the country might upset the fragile oil market by pushing up production or that it might be reluctant to continue talks on sorting out overdue debts.

The new regime, headed by Major-General Mohammed Buhari, has confirmed that it will stay in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) and has said that, if anything, it will play a stronger role in the oil producers' cartel.

In a letter sent to the Venezuelan export department and released through official Opec channels, Nigeria said it will not do anything or apply pressure of any nature which would effect the Opec price production agreement reached in London last March and ratified in Geneva six weeks ago.

Nigeria has also indicated that it will continue to refine and export oil at between £4.5 billion. Opec expected to travel to London, as planned, in the January 16 to negotiate a billion loan and a programme with the national Monetary Fund coming to London with Britain's Export Guarantee Department.

London bankers' telephone with mining officials in the department and released through official Opec channels, Nigeria said it will not do anything or apply pressure of any nature which would effect the Opec price production agreement reached in London last March and ratified in Geneva six weeks ago.

Over the same period, ECGD's combined cash reserves, in commercial and national interest accounts, rose from £481.3m to £280.7m.

In its own report on year's trading accounts, ECGD said that there was "strong probability" that the commercial account "may move into cumulative deficit by 1983-84; and it will touch and go whether the combined accounts move into temporary deficit at some point in the year or two after that."

But since then, Sir Gordon Downey reported that the position had deteriorated at an accelerated rate. He said: "At September 30, ECGD's combined cash reserves had further declined to an estimated £150m."

He then added: "The depart-

ment of a spokesman for Cadbury Schweppes said he was unaware of the appointment. Nabisco's snack products do not compete directly with Cadbury Schweppes confectionery. But the popularity of Nabisco snacks like Smiths and Walkers crisps and Planters Peanuts has eroded the traditional sweets market.

A spokesman for Nabisco conceded that the British arm did not have a chairman but said an official announcement would be made next week.

He added that Mr Healey had returned to Australia early because the organization of Nabisco's British interests had been completed in a year instead of the expected two. However, Mr Healey has not returned to his old job heading the Australasian operation, where he was said to have doubled Nabisco's profits in five years and an announcement about his future is expected soon.

Nabisco's chief executive is to be Mr John Greenias, a Canadian in his thirties, who arrived last month.

The coup of securing Mr Collins services is believed to have been achieved in a matter of days and previously some had expected that Mr Greenias would also take over the chair.

Mr Collins's retirement from Cadbury Schweppes was fore-shadowed by the announcement last May that Mr Dominic Cadbury, the younger brother of Sir Adrian Cadbury, was chief executive-elect. Mr Robert Henderson has become deputy chairman.

tion disclosed that it planned to increase its holdings from 7 per cent to as much as 49.9 per cent.

The plans were disclosed in keeping with the antitrust provisions of the Hart-Scott-Rodino Act which required the company to notify Warner Communications, the US Justice Department and the Federal Trade Commission of its intentions.

Analysts noted that in choosing to seek the extra shares under a Hart-Scott-Rodino filing, News Corporation was limited to a maximum of 49.9 per cent which explained why Mr Murdoch did not seek a controlling interest of more than 30 per cent as might have been expected.

Indeed, the disclosure made it clear that News International's immediate intentions may be limited to buying no more than 25 per cent of Warner.

The unexpected announcement and the conditions it

Military chafe fears Opec role

By David...

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The unexpected announcement and the conditions it

The recent decision by the Nigerian Senate to withdraw its delegation from the December Opec meeting if a new production quota was not reached was, for that reason, dismissed as a bargaining lever by Opec.

The signs that Nigeria's new regime is intent on resolving the problems over its short-term trade debts, some of which are up to three years overdue, will be welcomed in Whitehall and by British companies.

Britain's ECGD is the largest official creditor and latest estimate put the amount of overdue debts it has guaranteed in Nigeria for British companies at £600m to £800m. The ECGD is due to play a key role in negotiations although it is insisting that any refinancing deal involves other countries' export credit agencies and there must also be progress in IMF talks.

Although Britain is by far the biggest national aid donor to India, it last year maintained bilateral advances at the 1982 level of £110m.

It has had increasingly to show itself ready to use extra funds from the Aid and Trade Provision, the £66m set aside to secure specific contracts.

ATP money accounted for £17m of the £110m in three years, that was to go towards the £1.25 billion Davy contract for the Orissa steelworks.

That contract was controversially cancelled. But with British Steel continuing to negotiate for a £500m replacement scheme, to refurbish steelworks at Durgapur, in West Bengal, Mr Tebbitt will almost certainly come under fresh pressure to deploy ATP resources.

Under Comecon industrial planning, Bulgaria has been designated eastern Europe's main electronics producer, having already been awarded a significant slice of the machine-building sector.

The latter role has seen the Balkan producer of forklift trucks.

Bulgaria is also looking at BL's Roadtrain as a possible replacement for thousands of Bulgarian trucks providing freight services inside the country and in the Middle East and Africa. This business provides Bulgaria with its biggest hard currency earnings after tourism.

New York (Agencies) - In a move that will give them complete ownership of Getty Oil, Pennzoil and Mr Gordon Getty have joined forces to buy 48 million shares of Getty Oil for \$110 a share, or \$5.28 billion (£3.56 billion).

Getty Oil has accepted the proposal which values the company at \$9 billion.

The agreement followed two days of meetings of the company's 16-member board of directors and involved Mr Sidney Petersen, Chairman of Getty, Mr J. Hugh Liedtke, Mr chairman of Pennzoil, Mr Gordon Getty, trustee of the Sarah P. Getty Trust, and Mr Harold Williams, president of the J. Paul Getty Museum.

The J. Paul Getty is the second son of the late J. Paul Getty.

Getty. The four parties agreed to the transaction which, because of its size, involves Mr Gordon Getty becoming a partner with Pennzoil.

Last Tuesday, Pennzoil offered to buy 30 per cent of Getty's stock for \$100 a share, or \$1.6 billion in cash.

Mr Liedtke said at the time that he had \$2.5 billion in bank credit lines from a group of banks headed by Citibank and another \$300 million in company funds. It is not known where the balance of the funds will come from.

The Sarah Getty Trust, named after the mother of the

Recovery in gilts

The gilt edged market put up a fierce rearguard action yesterday in the wake of another poor performance by sterling on the foreign exchanges.

Longs wiped out falls of up to 50p to close with gains on the day of 4 1/2p.

However, turnover remained thin with institutions apparently continuing to enjoy their extended seasonal break.

The equity market continued to slide on lack of interest, but sentiment remained firm with leading brokers like de Zoete & Bevan still predicting a further improvement.

A firmer opening on Wall Street enabled share prices to close above their worst levels of the day with the FT index ending its loss to 1.6 at 770.3, having been 2.8 down early on.

Once again interest directed to bids and the New Year recommendations. Brewery shares were in sparkling form. Sector leaders like Allied-Lyons added 4p to 142p, Bass 6p to 311p, Scottish & Newcastle 5p to 104 1/2p and Whitbread "A" 4p to 132p.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 770.3 down 1.5
FT Gilts: 83.18 up 0.08
FT All Share: 470.89 up 0.86
Bargains: 17.725
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 98.36 up 0.43
New York: Dow Jones Average: 1256.49 up 3.75
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 9,927.11 up 33.29
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 877.26 up 5.20
Amsterdam: 170.8 up 1.8
Sydney: AO Index: 780.3 down 2.6
Frankfurt: Commerbank Index: 1052.4 down 8.2
Brussels: General Index: 135.61 up
Paris: CAC Index: 157.3 up 1.7
Zurich: SKA General: 318.70 down 2.0

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling: \$1.4205 down 80pts
Index: 82.0 down 0.2
DM: 3.9575 up 0.0175
FF: 12.0650 up 0.0100
Yen: 32.00 up 0.25
Dollar
Index: 131.1 up 1.1
DM: 2.7880 up 0.0270
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling: \$1.4175
Dollar: DM: 2.7875
INTERNATIONAL
ECU: 57.1820
SDR: 272.7214

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 9 1/2
Discount market loans week fixed 9
3 month interbank 9 1/2-9 3/4
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9 1/2-10
3 month DM 6 1/2-7
3 month FF 13 1/2-13 3/4
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 10
Treasury long bond 100 1/2-100 3/4
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period December 7 1983 to January 3, 1984 inclusive: 9.492 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$378.50 pm \$374.00
close \$375.00-375.75 (£264.25-264.75)
New York (latest): \$376.80
Kruggerand (per coin): (\$272.50-273.50)
Sovereigns (new): (\$88.00-89.00 (£62.00-62.75)
Excludes VAT

\$5.2bn deal to buy Getty Oil is agreed

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INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK edited by Michael Prest

Can coffee gain ground?

Will another increase in retail tea prices encourage coffee consumption? For most of the postwar period the two have been deadly rivals in the home, not least because coffee has slowly but surely increased its popularity. The latest rise in tea prices, which looks as though it could stick for some months, should on a superficial view be good for coffee.

Alas, life is not so simple. Coffee prices have been weakening over the past few days and there are several reasons for arguing that room for significant rise on the terminal market is limited.

The most important factor militating against a much higher coffee price is the effectiveness of the International Coffee Agreement. The second position price rose continuously from about £1,700 a tonne at the end of September, when the new coffee pact came into operation, to more than £1,900 before Christmas.

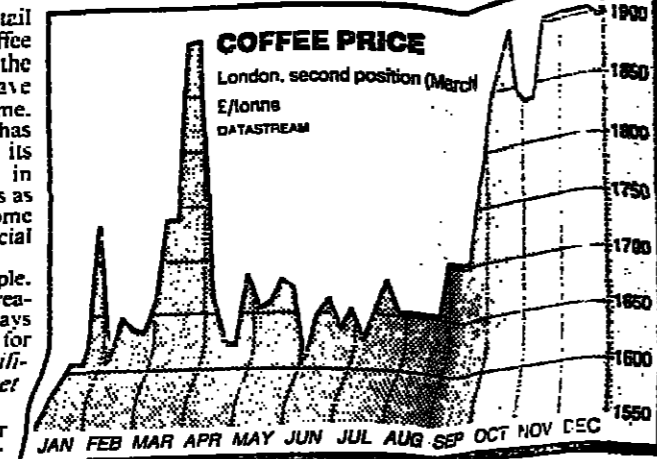
But this very rise brought the International Coffee Organisation's 15 day moving average indicator price to 140 cents a pound.

At that magic point exporters are allowed to sell another million of bags (60 kilograms each), and the extra quota was duly released last month.

So, despite the January to March quarter being traditionally fairly active, and regardless of the fact that eager exporters have already sold their quotas for the quarter, a pretty tight lid is clamped on coffee prices.

Moreover, on the consumer side, the evidence from long experience is that tastes change slowly. It is true that British coffee consumption has crept up from an annual average of 2 kilograms per capita 10 years ago to 2.5 in 1983.

But that in itself suggests that a prolonged change in the relative prices of tea and coffee is needed to tip the balance one way or the other.



Financial services

A refreshing paper from Dr John Ginnar and his team at Quilter Goodson & Co argues the case for revaluation of the clearing banks' shares in the wake of the revolution in the financial services sector.

The paper points out that with composite insurance selling on an average multiple of 16.6, the clearing banks' share prices are up to 70 per cent at current prices according to Quilter's calculations.

Part of the problem has been the depressing effect on profits of bad debts, particularly in Latin America, and also the threat of new moves to tax bank profits. However, the paper begs the question of whether these factors should outweigh the more traditional methods of valuing companies in terms of their assets and earnings.

Recent interest in the financial services sector has merely

widened the gap between the banks and other financial services companies. This is despite signs that the clearers are waking up to the opportunities which are open to them through their existing financial services activities.

All this in a sector where the underlying level of profits for 1984 at Barclays is £1 billion, at Lloyds £675m, and at National Westminster £775m. It is also an industry which is in the process of increasing its prices by 40 per cent in a year when the RPI is likely to rise by 5 per cent.

Hollas Group

Hollas Group, the Manchester gamblers' importers, has exposed its of its burdensome British manufacturing interests, but now the strength of the US dollar is conspiring against it.

Interim pretax profits to the end of September were fractionally ahead at £423,000 compared with £412,000, yet after allowing for the Threlles pretax profits are down 15 per cent.

Margins on the imports from Hongkong, which are financed in US dollars, have been sharply compressed.

Grindlays names new chairman

Grindlays Holdings and Grindlays Bank: Mr Alexander Ritchie, formerly deputy chairman, has succeeded Mr Nigel Robson as chairman.

P & O Cruises: Mr Len Scott has become deputy chairman. Mr Alan W. Langley, currently deputy managing director, succeeds Mr Scott as managing director.

Baring Brothers & Co: Mr W. Backhouse, Mr A. M. G. Baring, Mr G. S. Cass and Mr N. E. Melville have been made directors. Mr P. E. Bugge, Mr R. C. Daniels, Mr I. C. Dickson, Mr J. M. A. Menendez, Mr A. M. Pearce, Mr R. J. Rayner, The Hon. J. H. T. Russell, Mr V. Russell, Mr A. B. Swann and Mr I. W. White have been appointed assistant directors of the bank. Mr Rayner has been appointed managing director of Baring Brothers SA in Geneva. He remains managing director of Baring Brothers (France) SA in Paris.

J. Bibby & Sons: Mr John N. Malby, executive chairman of Burnham Oil, has joined the board as a non-executive director.

Nationwide Building Society: Mrs Rosemary Day and Miss Katharine Whitehorn have become directors.

Alvis: Mr David B. Brittain has joined the board as technical director. Mr Brittain succeeds Mr John Hedges who will remain a director until his retirement in November 1984.

Alliance Building Society: Mr Ken Chapman has retired as general manager (marketing) and is succeeded by Mr Tim Myers.

Lloyd's Aviation Underwriters' Association: Mr T. O. Piron has been re-elected chairman and Mr D. J. Peachey was re-elected deputy chairman of the association for the coming year. Other members of the committee for 1984 are as follows: Messrs. A. J. Avery, B. Coleman, R. F. Eljot, R. H. Gibbs, P. J. Hubert, R. J. Maylam, P. G. Stilwell, P. Tilling, E. O. Walkin and J. A. Westcott.

Wigham Poland: Mr Timothy Abtelt has been appointed financial controller and also becomes a director of Wigham Poland Management Services. Mr Peter Sutherland, chief accountant, becomes a director of Wigham Poland Management Services.

Turner & Newall Group: Mr D. G. Carruthers has become chairman of TBA Industrial Products, in succession to Mr D. W. Hills, who will remain a member of the TBA board.

Wayne Lintott meets an heir to 19th century wheeler-dealing

A Rothschild puts the cat among City's pigeons



Jacob Rothschild: "Why kill yourself making money?"

In the early nineteenth century Mayer Amschel Rothschild sent his five sons to the capitals of Europe to start up banks. They were to be geographically diverse enough to expand and to provide the protection necessary for the family to survive the revolutionary turbulence of Europe and the anti-semitic environment of their Frankfurt base.

The dominant of those sons, Nathan Mayer, came to London and in 1809 established N.M. Rothschild & Co. He was to play an important part in financing the European allies' war against Napoleon and nearly 100 years later the Rothschilds were still helping to finance the war against Hitler.

Nathan, was best known for his far sightedness and wheeler-dealing, risk-taking flair. If any of the descendants of Nathan are to stand comparison then Jacob Rothschild, 47, would best fit the mould.

The present restructuring of Britain's Stock Exchange will lead to radical changes of London's financial institutions, presently dwarfed by those of Japan and the US.

Of the European groups capable of forming a Hydra-headed conglomerate, the Rothschilds might seem most suitable.

But there is no chance of such a merger taking place. The idea is one that appeals to Jacob Rothschild but years ago tensions arose from the Rothschilds' failure to integrate and become such a force. Even now he regrets that the personal fiefdoms could not achieve Amschel's vision.

In 1980 Jacob became publicly divorced from his cousin Evelyn at N. M. Rothschild's and began life anew with what had been the Rothschild Investment Trust.

He shares the view, and has done for many years, that the tightly closed doors of the Stock Exchange club should be thrown open and that the inevitable result will be many multi-faceted financial service companies.

These companies will encompass insurance, credit of all forms, options, futures, equities, domestic and international bonds, stock issues, fund management, money broking, foreign exchange trading, mortgages, financial, legal and travel advice.

"They will be served up and sold throughout the world for 24 hours a day," he says.

He accepts that not all the leading British institutions will want to become involved in such a complicated business but one or two must and that American companies have so far proved keenest to buy into British stockbrokers. New York, it must be remembered, has already caused an upset in London by poaching senior staff and setting up their own brokerage house.

The mantle of flying Britain's flag is not one Jacob Rothschild intends assuming. "No, I don't envisage an all encompassing entity. We will work more on the wholesale than the retail side. We already have strengths but there is an enormous amount to do. It is too early to say how we will evolve eventually, at the moment the businesses are a Noah's Ark of operations."

His recent coup, the £400m merger with the Charterhouse Group, has created Charterhouse J Rothschild. Its assets tot £1.5 billion but it is still a minnow in international terms.

He put the cat among the pigeons in a recent City speech by claiming that the emoluments of London's traders are

too small. Some gasps had accompanied stories in London that some dealers had earned £300,000 a year in salaries and commissions.

He pointed out that in New York chief executives earn more than £1m a year and in the New York brokers, Rothschild, Unterberg, where his own company has a 50 per cent stake, no less than six will receive more than a \$1m (£700,000).

He sees C.I.R.'s main task in the short-term as consolidating its expertise. "But that does not exclude other things. It is certainly not the end of the story. We can gain strength by adding pieces to the jigsaw puzzle."

Unlike his relations, he does not consider it important to control the companies he heads. "I do have a significant material interest, several million shares in fact, but it is irrelevant to one's power base. I think exposure to shareholder democracy is a good discipline. Certainly, one does not need the protective clothing of non-elected royalty."

That attitude has manifested itself in allowing his experts an equity stake in the businesses they run under the C.I.R. umbrella and in bringing in heavyweight individuals as associates.

Jacob Rothschild is keenly watched because of his attitudes and most people in the City do

not doubt that he is leading the way in London. As far back as 1970, when he joined the board of RIT, then still under the bank's control, he acquired a holding in London's premier jobbing firm of Wedd, Durlacher & Mordant. That holding was divested by Wedd buying back the stake, at a substantial premium, which may be convenient as Wedd has just closed its New York operations after a legal dispute with Merrill Lynch and Lehman Brothers.

Since then a plethora of deals has taken a company capitalised at £2.3m coupled to total assets of £7.1m in 1970 into a financial services group capitalised at £400m with assets of over £1.5 billion.

Jacob Rothschild breaks the past 13 years into five phases. The first two lasted for six years. The next, including the formation of RIT management, also lasted six years. Phase four began in April, 1982, when RIT merged with the Great Northern Investment Trust. In the course of that deal RIT broke off its somewhat controversial ties with Mr Saul Steinberg's Reliance Group.

After that, the financial services company for the 1980s really began to form. A series of moves brought a stake in Kitcat & Aitken, the acquisition of a stake in L. F. Rothschild, Unterberg. Towbin - something N. M. Rothschild had failed to achieve - and the merger with Charterhouse.

Apart from wanting to see abolition of stamp duty on stock exchange deals, Jacob Rothschild thinks "the Government has done what it can. A clear regulatory framework is important but that is the province of the Bank of England and the City. It is still too much of a patchwork and it is important that it be made clear soon."

The cut-and-thrust of dealing is still important to him. In the biggest takeover battle Britain has seen, for the Eagle Star insurance group, RIT held several million shares.

His present holdings are almost entirely centred on the financial services sector, including insurance companies and banks but not the much-rumoured stake in insurance brokers Hogg Robinson.

What is his motivation? "I find it extremely interesting to help create a company involved in international finance. Why kill yourself making money? I just happen to enjoy this, at the moment."

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION To the Holders of Norges Kommunalbank

7% Guaranteed External Loan Bonds Due February 1, 1987

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of Section 4(c) of the Fiscal Agency Agreement dated as of February 1, 1972 between Norges Kommunalbank and The Chase Manhattan Bank (National Association), as Fiscal Agent, \$1,139,000 aggregate principal amount of the above captioned Bonds (the "Bonds") will be redeemed through operation of the sinking fund on February 1, 1984 (the "Redemption Date") at the Redemption Price of 100% of the principal amount thereof (the "Redemption Price").

The serial numbers of the Bonds to be redeemed are as follows:

M 1	831	1645	2557	3372	5834	7502	8635	9917	10977	11776	12731	15923	17393	18678
2	848	1660	2565	3386	5849	7510	8652	9943	10982	11783	12735	15939	17406	18685
3	852	1664	2569	3391	5853	7514	8656	9947	10986	11787	12739	15943	17410	18685
4	856	1668	2573	3405	5857	7518	8660	9951	10990	11791	12741	15947	17414	18685
5	860	1672	2577	3419	5861	7522	8664	9955	11000	11792	12743	15951	17418	18685
6	864	1676	2581	3433	5865	7526	8668	9959	11010	11793	12745	15955	17422	18685
7	868	1680	2585	3447	5869	7530	8672	9963	11020	11794	12747	15959	17426	18685
8	872	1684	2589	3461	5873	7534	8676	9967	11030	11795	12749	15963	17430	18685
9	876	1688	2593	3475	5877	7538	8680	9971	11040	11796	12751	15967	17434	18685
10	880	1692	2597	3489	5881	7542	8684	9975	11050	11797	12753	15971	17438	18685
11	884	1696	2601	3503	5885	7546	8688	9979	11060	11798	12755	15975	17442	18685
12	888	1700	2605	3517	5889	7550	8692	9983	11070	11799	12757	15979	17446	18685
13	892	1704	2609	3531	5893	7554	8696	9987	11080	11800	12759	15983	17450	18685
14	896	1708	2613	3545	5897	7558	8700	9991	11090	11801	12761	15987	17454	18685
15	900	1712	2617	3559	5901	7562	8704	9995	11100	11802	12763	15991	17458	18685
16	904	1716	2621	3573	5905	7566	8708	9999	11110	11803	12765	15995	17462	18685
17	908	1720	2625	3587	5909	7570	8712	10003	11120	11804	12767	15999	17466	18685
18	912	1724	2629	3601	5913	7574	8716	10007	11130	11805	12769	16003	17470	18685
19	916	1728	2633	3615	5917	7578	8720	10011	11140	11806	12771	16007	17474	18685
20	920	1732	2637	3629	5921	7582	8724	10015	11150	11807	12773	16011	17478	18685
21	924	1736	2641	3643	5925	7586	8728	10019	11160	11808	12775	16015	17482	18685
22	928	1740	2645	3657	5929	7590	8732	10023	11170	11809	12777	16019	17486	18685
23	932	1744	2649	3671	5933	7594	8736	10027	11180	11810	12779	16023	17490	18685
24	936	1748	2653	3685	5937	7598	8740	10031	11190	11811	12781	16027	17494	18685
25	940	1752	2657	3699	5941	7602	8744	10035	11200	11812	12783	16031	17498	18685
26	944	1756	2661	3713	5945	7606	8748	10039	11210	11813	12785	16035	17502	18685
27	948	1760	2665	3727	5949	7610	8752	10043	11220	11814	12787	16039	17506	18685
28	952	1764	2669	3741	5953	7614	8756	10047	11230	11815	12789	16043	17510	18685
29	956	1768	2673	3755	5957	7618	8760	10051	11240	11816	12791	16047	17514	18685
30	960	1772	2677	3769	5961	7622	8764	10055	11250	11817	12793	16051	17518	18685
31	964	1776	2681	3783	5965	7626	8768	10059	11260	11818	12795	16055	17522	18685
32	968	1780	2685	3797	5969	7630	8772	10063	11270	11819	12797	16059	17526	18685
33	972	1784	2689	3811	5973	7634	8776	10067	11280	11820	12799	16063	17530	18685
34	976	1788	2693	3825	5977	7638	8780	10071	11290	11821	12801	16067	17534	18685
35	980	1792	2697	3839	5981	7642	8784	10075	11300	11822	12803	16071	17538	18685
36	984	1796	2701	3853	5985	7646	8788	10079	11310	11823	12805	16075	17542	18685
37	988	1800	2705	3867	5989	7650	8792	10083	11320	11824	12807	16079	17546	18685
38	992	1804	2709	3881	5993	7654	8796	10087	11330	11825	12809	16083	17550	18685
39	996	1808	2713	3895	5997	7658	8800	10091	11340	11826	12811	16087	17554	18685
40	1000	1812	2717	3909	6001	7662	8804	10095	11350	11827	12813	16091	17558	18685
41	1004	1816	2721	3923	6005	7666	8808	10099	11360	11828	12815	16095	17562	18685
42	1008	1820	2725	3937	6009	7670	8812	10103	11370	11829	12817	16099	17566	18685
43	1012	1824	2729	3951	6013	7674	8816	10107	11380	11830	12819	16103	17570	18685
44	1016	1828	2733	3965	6017	7678	8820	10111	11390	11831	12821	16107	17574	18685
45	1020	1832	2737	3979	6021	7682	8824	10115	11400	11832	12823	16111	17578	18685
46	1024	1836	2741	3993	6025	7686	8828	10119	11410	11833	12825	16115	17582	18685
47	1028	1840	2745	4007	6029	7690	8832	10123	11420	11834	12827	16119	17586	18685
48	1032	1844	2749	4021	6033	7694	8836	10127	11430	11835	12829	16123	17590	18685
49	1036	1848	2753	4035										

RACING: DODGY FUTURE TACKLES SENIORS AT SANDOWN ON SATURDAY

Bregawn to take Haydock option

By Michael Seely

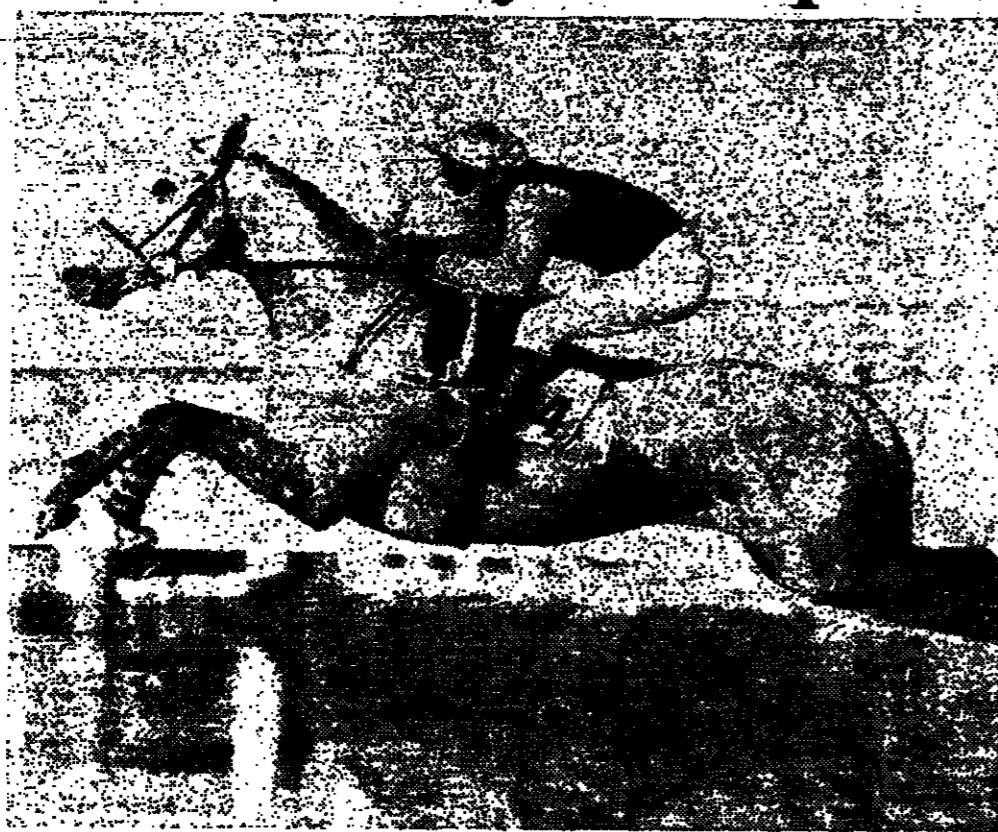
Bregawn runs in the New Year Handicap Chase at Haydock Park on Saturday in preference to taking on Burrough Hill Lad at Sandown Park. Announcing his decision yesterday Michael Dickinson said: "Not only does the Lancashire race look an easier target, but there's also been a great deal more rain in the North-West, so the ground is likely to be softer." It was, of course, because of the fast going at Kempton Park that last season's Cheltenham Gold Cup winner was withdrawn at the 11th hour from the King George VI Chase on Boxing Day.

Graham Bradley will not only be riding Bregawn but also Macs Park and Money From America. Macs Park, a recent acquisition from Ireland, won a handicap hurdle in fluent style at Wetherby and despite a six penalty for that success, still looks reasonably treated in the Ladbrokes Northern Hurdle. Cool Decision, the runner-up at Wetherby, made the form book solid when landing a gamble in the L'Oreal Hurdle at Newbury.

The champion trainer is certainly setting a strong pace at the head of affairs, having suffered only one defeat from the five runners he has saddled in the new year. Once again he is spreading his net far and wide on Saturday. Robert Earnshaw goes to Sandown to take the mount on Fearless Imp in the Express Chase and Dermot Brien travels to Warwick to ride Brunsdon in the Grunwick Novices' Chase.

Despite the absence of Bregawn, the Anthony Midway Peter Cazalet Memorial Chase still looks like being one of the most competitive staying handicaps run to date. Even with a penalty for his victory in the Coral Welsh National, Burrough Hill Lad looks set to continue Henry Pitman's triumph march in Sandown's £15,000 feature. Eager, Royal Judgement and Lillie Owl are other talented chasers, under orders for this extended three miles five furlongs test.

The Tolworth Hurdle and the Tante Claire 4-year-old Hurdle should shed some valuable light on the Daily Express Triumph Hurdle situation. David Elsworth runs the five-year-old, Desert Orchid, in the Tolworth and is keeping Easter Lee in reserve for the Tante Claire. Only defeated once in his last



Desert Orchid, David Elsworth's exciting front-runner, has Tolworth Hurdle target

four starts, by the year older Catch Phrase on this course in December. Desert Orchid was remarkably impressive when sprinting home by 15 lengths from the unenterprisingly ridden Brunsdon. Richard Burridge's home-bred gelding is set to concede 9lb to Dodgy Future who is at present ante post favourite to give Stan Mellor his third victory in Cheltenham's four-year-old championship.

Fred Winter looks the man to follow at Lingfield this afternoon. The seven times champion trainer can land a double by winning the first division of the Horley Novices Hurdle and The Reject and the Sevenoaks

Novices Chase with Carved Opal. The Reject is one of Winter's promising team of young hurdlers. The winner of a 22-runner bumpers race in Ireland in April, The Reject was made favourite for his first race over hurdles and won comfortably by half a length from Rose Ravine, who had previously beaten the highly thought of Townley Stone at Warwick.

Carved Opal, a useful hurdler last season, dead-headed with Lear Air Aghaidh on his first appearance over fences at Kempton. The six-year-old jumped magnificently and should have too much pace for

Nicky Henderson's Warwick winner, Green Bramble, and Brave Hussar.

Mossat and Herr Capitan are two other likely winners on the Surrey course. Mossat was staying at the finish when fourth to Ensign's kit at Wolverhampton and should have most to fear from Jade and Diamond, and Dalbury in the Southern Counties Handicap Hurdle. Herr Capitan likes Lingfield and also relishes the prevailing soft going. Jim Old's eight-year-old ran well when third to Giddygan at Newton Abbot and is the one they all have to beat in the World Handicap Chase.

Finally, it is good to hear that Newcastle are to name a race in honour of Ekbalco who was tragically killed in his fall in the Fighting Fifth hurdle on the course in November. Freddie Newton, the clerk of the course at Gosford Park said yesterday: "The race we have chosen was formerly known as the Long Town Hurdle. Next season it will be run on October 30 and will probably carry £2,000 in added money."

Rivers Edge heads for Lincoln

Denys Smith, the Bishop Auckland trainer, intends running Rivers Edge in the Lincoln Handicap, despite the big race being held almost three months away. The six-year-old showed his well-being when gaining his third win over hurdles at Ayr yesterday.

Rivers Edge, who is owned by John Fry, father of the stable's

talented flat apprentice, Martin, provided Smith with his 21st winner over jumps this term when taking the Drongon Conditional Jockeys Handicap Hurdle by seven lengths from Longlife. "I might give Rivers Edge one more race over hurdles, but he will be getting ready now for the Lincoln," Smith said. Martin Fry will have the ride

Lingfield Park

GOING: Soft
Tote Double: 2.0, 3.0. Treble: 1.30, 2.30, 3.30

1.0 HORLEY HURDLE (Div I: novices: 2548) (21 runners)

102 THE REBEL (B) (J. Lusk) P. 5-11-8 J. Francome
103 CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
104 SHOOTING BUTTS (B) (B. C. Read) P. 5-11-8 J. Hughes
105 THE REBEL (B) (J. Lusk) P. 5-11-8 J. Francome
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199 CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
200 SHOOTING BUTTS (B) (B. C. Read) P. 5-11-8 J. Hughes

1.40 THE REJECT, 5 Crispin, 7 Colonel Godfrey, 10 Sallie, 12 Majestic Cue, 20 others.

2.0 OLD MILL CHASE (selling handicap: 5971: 2m 4f) (16)

201 0011-P HULLA (B) (J. Strong) J. 5-11-7 J. Francome
202 0012-P THUNDERBOLT (B) (J. Strong) J. 5-11-7 J. Francome
203 0013-P JAMES BEYHOUR (B) (J. Strong) J. 5-11-7 J. Francome
204 0014-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
205 0015-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
206 0016-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
207 0017-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
208 0018-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
209 0019-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
210 0020-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
211 0021-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
212 0022-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
213 0023-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
214 0024-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
215 0025-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
216 0026-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
217 0027-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
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220 0030-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
221 0031-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
222 0032-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
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228 0038-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
229 0039-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
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231 0041-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
232 0042-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
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260 0070-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
261 0071-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
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263 0073-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
264 0074-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
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266 0076-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
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269 0079-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
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271 0081-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
272 0082-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
273 0083-P CRISPIN (B) (J. Gifford) P. 5-11-8 J. Gifford
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General Appointment

HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development

Workshops for the self-employed

Recently a number of disused factories, warehouses and other buildings have been renovated and sub-divided into workshops suitable for small businesses and self-employed craftsmen. The conversions have been carried out by private organisations and public bodies with the aim of encouraging the creation of small firms and finding uses for redundant industrial floor space. It is also hoped that the growth of small firms will help to create jobs, particularly in run-down inner-city areas where many of these developments are situated.

The range of activities that can be carried out in small workshops is extensive. Craft and design-based undertakings such as pottery, glass-blowing, jewellery-making, engraving, and fashion and textile design are particularly suited to premises of this type, but light engineering, publishing and typesetting, office services and any other type of small business that does not depend on passing trade could function satisfactorily from a multi-let building.

In some instances, support facilities for the small firm are provided as well as space to work. These include business advice, help with raising loans, exhibition facilities and marketing services. Rent concessions may be available to those who are just starting up.

Meeting expansion

Most important is the interchange of ideas, skills and facilities that can come about when dozens of individual craftsmen and small firms are all working at the same premises. Not only does the presence of others in similar or complementary fields act as a boost to morale; it may also help a business to survive. For example, subcontracting and peak load job-sharing may be arranged with other occupants of the building; it may be possible to arrange to share or borrow expensive equipment which would otherwise be beyond the means of the individual; and services such as typing, printing and photocopying are often available on the spot.

A further advantage is that if the operation should expand, it might be possible to move a larger unit within the same premises, thus avoiding the problems connected with a change of business address.

Flexibility is an important requirement, since it is difficult to make a long-term commitment to a workshop without knowing whether the untied business idea will succeed. The use of "licence agreements" for letting small workshops means that it is easy to move in and out and reduces the need for initial capital. Some are available merely on payment of a month's rent in advance, and agreement to give four weeks' notice before leaving. The drawback to this type of arrangement, though, is that it does not offer protection against rent increases.

I visited several workshop com-

Helen Steadman
outlines a scheme
whereby premises and
services are made available
to small firms

plexes to discuss with tenants some of the problems involved in setting up a business within such a framework. The individuals interviewed, some of whom were fresh from art colleges, certainly seemed to be functioning effectively.

Keeping costs down is crucial in the early stages of setting up a new enterprise. One person was renting a workshop of 150 square feet for £23 per week, though most of those who were interviewed were paying rather more than this. Shared between two or three, a rent of £23-£50 becomes manageable for those who are starting out in business, particularly when it is an inclusive figure, covering rates, heating and management charges. Moreover, at two sites electricity charges were included in the monthly rent. The people interviewed stressed that it is important to check exactly what one is paying for, and what extra costs need to be allowed for.

To achieve a minimal outlay, several people had initially considered or tried working from home. Sometimes, however, this is not possible, because there is insufficient space for equipment, planning restrictions prevent the use of one's home for "light industry", or because of other factors such as noise causing a disturbance to the neighbours. Psychologically, separating work from home has its advantages. Once the workshop has been locked up in the evening, there is nothing more one can do, whereas the person working from home may constantly be concerned with the worries and responsibilities of the business.

The company of other people involved in similar enterprises can act as a stimulus, whereas working at home is sometimes isolating and depressing. This was the experience of Alison Combe, who makes fashion accessories and has tried both working from home and renting a workshop. She finds the workshop makes her feel "more businesslike", increases her confidence and brings her into contact with other designers with whom she can discuss her creative ideas.

Lindsey Othen, a ceramic jeweller, was enthusiastic about sharing skills and facilities in a workshop complex. Although she has only just moved into her workshop, she has been able to arrange to share facilities with potters and glassworkers, and has already found an outlet for her work through contacts made there.

Location is another significant factor which affects not only the cost, but also the image of the business. If customers or agents are likely to visit the site, then accessibility, availability of parking space, and the appearance of the building are important. Michael Fryer and Andy Gee, fashion

designers, looked at premises initially, but slightly cheaper than they chose, but preferred to be in a common area where and which would be easy to reach.

In other instances, the building does not work as a workshop is simply goods are produced, and customers take place premises. For Richard Peter Lacey, who has a sandwich delivery Central London location but smart premises as they deliver the sandwiches to their customers' offices.

Another important question of 24-hour workshop. One may not be able to work on occasions, particularly on nights, but all the places I visited were able to come in the day or night; one had started off on a 9 basis, but the manager they had to extend the hours to enable the tenants to work evenings and at weekends.

The main difficulty in trying to establish a small business, and interviewed all gave this problem. Some of the started very recently, but been helped by the Services Commission or loan scheme. Designers employed people who want own businesses, this scheme an allowance of £40 per week to help one start-up phase. It is necessary to have £1,000 the business, and this was main stumbling block.

Finance problem

Of those who had started enterprise allowance was one had been able to obtain from the Crafts Council, others it was a matter of a part-time employment in a workshop, or waiting business was generating cash to finance a move into Michael Fryer and Andy fashion designers, started business while they were still college, and by the time graduated they had sufficient to justify a workshop rent.

Small craft workshops are to create jobs on any significant but they do provide a satisfactory way of generating income for the individual self-employed. At a time when traditional meant opportunities are short they can provide a viable alternative for those with the initiative to produce and market their own. The monetary rewards may be high, but a life style which job satisfaction and individualism is in itself a valuable asset.

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DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE
CARDIFF HEADQUARTERS

position is being created to help the Board carry through its growth and at significant real increases in tourism and in related jobs in Wales. The Chief Executive will take operational control of all Tourist Board functions in the Finance Department, and will deputise for the Chief Executive as all areas including the financial control of operating divisions. He is invited from men or women who can demonstrate marketing skills and achievements, ability to lead senior managers of high professional calibre, personal qualities and achievements equipping him or her to deal successfully at the highest levels in the tourist industry and local government, previous experience of controlling large budgets, previous experience at director level in a substantial organisation, not necessarily in the tourist industry. Candidates are likely to have a degree or professional qualification, up to about 45.

is offered within the British Tourist Boards' salary range Grade I £6,262. Commencing salary will depend upon experience and complete confidence, with brief career details to Alan Rosser, Chief Executive, International Management Search, 6-8 Albany Road, Cardiff CF2 3RP. ASSOCIATES IN NEW YORK, DELAWARE AND INDIANA. A DIVISION OF WALES INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT CENTRE.

WALES
British Overseas Airways Corporation

are invited for the following positions based at the Board's Cardiff Headquarters.

OVERSEAS
DIRECTOR

Open to men and women, carries responsibility for the Board's overseas operations in co-operation with the British Overseas Airways Corporation. In order to achieve the tourism facilities in Wales, helping to shape the Board's policy on investment in tourism and dealing with local authorities on tourism-related planning matters are important parts of the job. The successful candidate will have a proven experience of evaluating and monitoring capital investment projects. This may have been gained in tourism, property investment, the construction industry, or possibly in a financial management role in some other field. Candidates, men or women, must be able to demonstrate the ability to lead a department employing a wide range of professional skills. The successful candidate is likely, in addition, to have a degree and a relevant professional qualification and to be a car owner/driver. A working knowledge of the Welsh language would be an advantage but is not essential. Preferred age is up to 45.

PROJECTS DIRECTOR

This senior management job carries responsibility to the Chief Executive of the Board for administering the statutory financial assistance available to encourage investment in tourism facilities in Wales. Helping to shape the Board's policy on investment in tourism and dealing with local authorities on tourism-related planning matters are important parts of the job. The successful candidate will have a proven experience of evaluating and monitoring capital investment projects. This may have been gained in tourism, property investment, the construction industry, or possibly in a financial management role in some other field. Candidates, men or women, must be able to demonstrate the ability to lead a department employing a wide range of professional skills. The successful candidate is likely, in addition, to have a degree and a relevant professional qualification and to be a car owner/driver. A working knowledge of the Welsh language would be an advantage but is not essential. Preferred age is up to 45.

These positions are offered within the British Tourist Board's salary range - Grade II - £12,895-£17,522. Commencing salary will depend upon experience and qualifications.

Please write for an application form, which should be completed and returned by 9 February 1984 to:-

Chief Executive,
Wales Tourist Board, Brunel House,
2, Fitzalan Road, CARDIFF, CF2 1UY

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Merchandising West Byfleet

paper Limited, the UK merchandising operation of Mo & AB, one of Europe's major paper and pulp manufacturers, Managing Director.

Successful applicant will lead an ambitious and aggressive management team based at our new Head Office in West Byfleet. He will also have significant general management experience, particular reference to the disciplines of sales and marketing, and a proven track record in the paper or related trade.

Employment package will reflect the importance of this position and it is unlikely that anyone earning less than £30,000 p.a. will have the necessary experience.

write in confidence to V.R. Baylis, Chairman, Link Paper Limited, Link House, Rosemount Avenue, West Byfleet, Weybridge, Surrey KT14 6LE.

LONDON AGENTS FOR GREEK-BASED
SHIPPING COMPANIES REQUIRE
MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT WITH
LEGAL QUALIFICATIONS.

Aged 24/26. Must be bilingual, English/Greek. Good knowledge of other European languages advantageous. Salary around £12,000 pa negotiable dependent upon qualifications and experience.

WRITE WITH FULL CV TO:
Box 2203H The Times

MOTOR YACHT
CRUISING MEDITERRANEAN

Requires non-smoking, clean, tidy, personable and hard working young crewman. 18-25 years old, for the period Mar '84 - Oct '84. The job calls for mechanical aptitude and self motivation to undertake a great deal of hard and dirty work, useful assets: foreign language, watersports, small boat handling. Send full CV and recent snapshot to Box 2201H The Times.

MOLTON BROWN
HAIRDRESSING
SALON

Requires an experienced professional hairdresser capable of taking further responsibilities. Salary £5,000, early review. Tel: 01-439 2046 for an appointment

WINE BAR

Night Manager in SW18 under 30 years Experience not essential but preferred. Excellent salary and prospects. Contact John Baker 01-474 2288

CAREERS EDITOR (Full time, Literate)

Individuals to fill in letters for overseas opportunities. We look for overseas experience, travel, and a good knowledge of the world. If you have been overseas for 2-5 years, please send your CV to: The Times, 1, London, EC4A 3DF. Tel: 01-474 2288. No phone calls, please.

WINE BAR

Requires an experienced professional hairdresser capable of taking further responsibilities. Salary £5,000, early review. Tel: 01-439 2046 for an appointment

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MANAGER

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ARABIC SPORT

Arabic language magazine requires a writer to provide reports on Arabic sports matters. Apply Box No. 123KL

RESIDENT COURSE

Requires a dynamic, ambitious person to take over the club. Salary £5,000, early review. Tel: 01-439 2046 for an appointment

WINE BAR

Requires an experienced professional hairdresser capable of taking further responsibilities. Salary £5,000, early review. Tel: 01-439 2046 for an appointment

UNITED NATIONS
ARABIC TRANSLATORS/
PRECIS WRITERS
AND
ARABIC EDITORS

ARABIC TRANSLATORS

A competitive examination for the recruitment of Arabic Translators will be held on 21 and 22 May 1984 in 15 centres in the Translation Division, Department of Conference Services, at the United Nations Secretariat in New York and subsequently at other duty stations in Europe, Africa, Asia or Latin America. A roster from which future vacancies for translators will be filled will also be established.

Applicants must:

- Have ARABIC as their main language (their language is to be understood as the language into which the candidate is best able to translate).
- Have a perfect command of ARABIC and a working knowledge of ENGLISH and of at least one of the other official languages of the United Nations, preferably FRENCH or SPANISH (the official languages of the United Nations are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish).
- Hold a degree or an equivalent qualification from a university or institution of equivalent status in the field of law, economics, management, statistics, sociology, science and technology and related fields. Candidates who do not hold a degree in such fields but who have at least three years of continuous experience as professional translators may also be considered.

ARABIC EDITORS

A competitive examination for the recruitment of Arabic Editors will be held on 23 and 24 May 1984 in order to establish a roster of candidates from which present and future vacancies will be filled in the Official Records Editing Sections of both the Department of Conference Services in New York and the Language Service at Geneva.

Applicants must:

- Have ARABIC as their main language (their language is to be understood as the language into which the candidate considers themselves best able to edit).
- Have a perfect command of ARABIC.
- Have a very good knowledge of ENGLISH and either FRENCH or SPANISH. Additionally, knowledge of Russian is desirable. Claims of a very good knowledge of any of these languages must be supported by a certificate or by a statement from the candidate explaining how, when and where the knowledge was acquired.
- Hold a degree in the Humanities (preferably in languages, journalism, political science or related subjects) or an equivalent qualification from a university or a similar diploma from an institution of equivalent status.
- Have a minimum of three years of professional experience in editing and have drafting ability.

As recruitment for the posts of ARABIC Translator and ARABIC Editor may lead to a permanent position, the United Nations is looking for candidates who can serve for a substantial number of years. Starting gross base salary \$4,223 dollars per annum plus post adjustment (\$1,747 dollars net per annum at present but subject to change) and family allowance.

Further information and application forms may be obtained by writing to: Personnel Services, Office 247, Secretariat Recruitment Section, United Nations Office at Geneva, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland, enclosing a self-addressed envelope measuring 32 x 18 inches for documentation. Please indicate position applying for. The deadline for receipt of completed application forms is 10 February 1984.

National Galleries
of Scotland
Director

The Civil Service Commission, at the request of the Trustees, invites applications for the post of Director of the National Galleries of Scotland in Edinburgh. This consists of the National Gallery, the Portrait Gallery, and the Gallery of Modern Art. Total staff numbers about 130. The Director is responsible to the Trustees for the administration of all three Galleries, and for financial matters. He is accounting officer for the vote of the Galleries.

Candidates should preferably be over 35 years of age. They must have good academic qualifications, experience of administrative responsibility, preferably in a public art gallery or museum, and a sound knowledge of European and British art.

Salary: currently £23,155, but due for review before the post becomes available in November 1984.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 2 February 1984) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG22 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 48851 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref G/6132/2.

ASSISTANT
ARCHIVIST/SECRETARY

Required to work in a small but very busy Archive and Library Department responsible to the Archivist/Librarian. A mature and energetic person with an enquiring mind also able to perform secretarial duties with typing and shorthand capabilities. Guiding knowledge an advantage. Position required to be filled early 1984. Attractive salary, staff restaurant. Five day week - 35 hours. Application forms available from:-

The Personnel Assistant,
The Girl Guides Association,
17/19 Buckingham Palace Road,
London, SW1W 0PT.

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The Marketing Director
DRI Europe Ltd
30 Old Queen Street
London SW1H 9HP

MORE THAN A SALES OPPORTUNITY

Throughout 1983 Mountain Video established themselves as market leaders in the production and distribution of children's pre-recorded cassettes.

During 1984 we intend to consolidate that position and launch a series of programmes destined to have a significant impact on the video industry. Consequently we require applications from suitably qualified women and men with proven background in sales and marketing.

The successful applicant in addition to her or his responsibility for sales to key accounts in the London area, will be encouraged to bring new ideas to the Company and use them to help construct, develop and monitor policies aimed at promoting and increasing business.

The position is demanding and challenging, applicants therefore, should be ambitious, adaptable and able to motivate sales personnel.

An excellent salary and benefits await the right person. Apply in writing with full CV to:

DAVID BRANT, (Sales Manager),
MOUNTAIN VIDEO,
45 NEW OXFORD STREET, LONDON WC1

Medical Defence Union
EDITOR

The Medical Defence Union invites applications from experienced medical journalists for a new appointment based in London. The qualification is not essential. You will be responsible for the rapid development of the information service to our members world-wide, through bulletins and paragraphs on all aspects of our work in the medical and dental fields. You will brief members on proposed legislation, actions under trial and five medico-legal topics such as no-tout compensation.

You will have a good knowledge of the major medical and dental journals in the UK and other countries and will be able to liaise with their editors. Your work will bring you into contact with medical and dental associations, government departments and fellow journalists. Your salary and other benefits will be commensurate with this senior appointment.

Further information may be obtained from:

The Secretary
The Medical Defence Union
3 Devonshire Place, London W1N 2EA
Telephone 01-488 6181
Cables Democoles, London

The closing date for applications is 31 January 1984

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL SEEK
RESEARCHER

to work on south or southeast Asia

The research department of the international secretariat seeks a researcher for investigating human rights violations in south or southeast Asia and identifying the means to ensure protection human rights within Amnesty International's mandate. Candidates should have sound knowledge and experience of either south or southeast Asia, especially its political and legal background. Ability to seek out and evaluate information objectively, good political judgment and an ability to communicate well in English both orally and in writing are essential.

Candidates with experience and qualifications on either south or southeast Asia (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) are invited to apply. For south Asia, local qualifications and/or knowledge of Hindi or Urdu would be an asset. For southeast Asia, knowledge of a local language would be an advantage.

Candidates will be required to work with new technology according to the appropriate agreement. Salary: £8,000 PA (index linked). For detailed job specification and application form please contact the personnel officer, Amnesty International, International Secretariat, 1 Easton Street, London, WC1X 8DJ enclosing stamped/self addressed envelope. Closing date for receipt of application forms: 24 February, 1984.

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M. A. CHAUDHRY Executive Director
SAHER INTERNATIONAL TRADING CO LTD
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London W1R 9WB
01-406 1611 Ext 225

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Our client, a well-established London based company is looking for young professional sales people to sell their software packages throughout the UK. If you have previous experience and are successful in selling, accounting or word processing software and are keen to join an expanding company with excellent future prospects, please telephone to arrange an early interview. Annie Gemmell or Vivien Moyles

Recruitment Consultants
In The Parade, Haver Green,
Essex, London W5
Tel: 01-997 5604/01-991 1734

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